A look back at national news No serious setbacks, some social and legal gains made in 2002.

page 14

From sadness to action AIDS agencies sprout up in Argentina, but they need funding.

A Dickens of a movie Who's Who of gay icons in 'Nicholas Nickleby' cast. see Arts section



Vol. 33 · No. 1 · 2 January 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

State tax board deems SF DP rule unenforceable

by Matthew S. Bajko

state agency has determined San Francisco's historic ruling to exclude domestic partners from real property reassessment is "fatally flawed" and "void and unenforceable," the Bay Area Reporter has learned learned.

learned.

The legal counsel for the state Board of Equalization, which oversees and ensures California cities and counties are in compliance with the state's taxation laws, has determined the ruling violates the state Constitution as well as the state's revenue and taxation codes.

In a letter dated December 10.

taxation codes.

In a letter dated December 10,
Timothy Boyer, chief counsel for the
equalization board, stated that the
ruling is "void and unenforceable because it is preempted by the Constitution and state law."

Boyer has requested that City At torney Dennis Herrera "direct the assessor to withdraw the ruling as soon as possible or in

the alternative, initiate the aption in a court of law."

The ruling, issued by Assessor Doris Ward 2002, states that same-sex regis-tered domestic



Doris Ward

partners in San Francisco are the equivalent of "spouses" for purposes of exclusion from real property reassessment. In effect, San Francisco became the first city and county in the state not to reassess the property of domestic partners when one of the partners dies.

partners dies.

Since it went into effect, three people, whose partners had died and faced steep increases in their property taxes, have benefited from the ruling. No other county or city has enacted similar rulings, though a gay group in Marin is lobbying Marin's assessor to pass a similar ruling.

group in Marin is lobbying Marin's assessor to pass a similar ruling.
According to Ronald Chun, Ward's deputy assessor who helped write the ruling, other assessor offices have been waiting to see how the Board of Equalization would react. Chun added he has been advising gays and lesbians inquiring about the city's ruling that it could very well be invalidated by the courts.

"We have been telling everyone there is a challenge going on," Chun told the B.A.R. in an interview Monday, December 30. "If the court overturns this, they may be liable for the taxes in the future."

taxes in the future."

Despite the state tax board's letter, Chun said Ward has no intention of withdrawing her ruling before she leaves office next week.

page 8 >

2003 brings new approaches to HIV prevention by Matthew S. Bajko

doesn't look like much now, but by mid-year the old Stadtlanders Phar-macy on 18th Street, across from Badlands, should be bustling with activity and herald a new

activity and herald a new era in gay men's health. The now vacant storefront is being remodeled to suit the needs of the Castro Gay Men's Health Project. The program will be called Magnet and aims to expand the focus on gay men's health from only HIV and AIDS to everything from sexually everything from sexually transmitted diseases and drug addiction to mental health and physical

well-being.
"This will acknowledge our whole lives as

gay men," said Steven Tierney, director of HIV prevention for the city's Department of



page 15

DPH's Steven Tierney, above, and UCSF's Coates, right

Public Health. Set to open in May, the program is a brickand-mortar example of the reality of today's



AIDS epidemic and the changing health concerns within the gay community. With HIV now seen as a manageable disease, gay men's attitudes toward their well-being and how they take care of themselves are strikingly dif-

care of themselves are strikingly dif-ferent from 20 years ago.

"There is a relationship be-tween sexually transmitted dis-eases and mental health and sub-stance use. These are all integrat-ed," said Steven Gibson last sum-mer when he was named director of the new health project. "We of the new health project. "We want to create an environment that supports gay men having a healthy sexual life. More of the same is not what we need to bring the rates of STDs and HIV down."

the rates of STDs and HIV down."

The San Francisco project is just one of many efforts throughture out the nation to find new ways to tackle AIDS and HIV prevention.

In the new year, health officials predict new emphasis will be placed on targeting those groups of people who are at greater risk of becoming infected, such as methamphetamine users. And prevention messages will follow suit, no longer aimed at the general pop-

mine users. And prevention messages will follow suit, no longer aimed at the general populace but at specific segments of the community, health officials predict.

"We need to really target at this point. In
the original days of HIV prevention, we tried
to provide testing and information to everybody," said Tierney. "There are very high-risk
subpopulations at risk and we should concentrate our efforts there."

subpopulations at risk and we should concentrate our efforts there."

Dr. Tom Coates, director of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California at San Francisco, has argued for the past two years that newer prevention messages are needed. It is not that the community is ill-informed, argued Coates, but that messages needed to be tailored to more targeted audiences.

"We need more emphasis on prevention for positives, more emphasis on drug treatments and people with meth problems. We need creative outreach to people who connect

need creative outreach to people who connect for sex on the Internet," said Coates. "We need to focus on the mental health arena, in particular with gay men who have impotency prob-lems. Information isn't the problem. It is the

page 19

A look at who

compiled by Cynthia Laird

t was a busy year for LGBT Bay Area residents, their allies, and some who are not so gay friendly. Following are some of the people and events that made headlines in 2002.

January

The new year had barely started when San Francis-co Police Chief **Fred Lau** announced a shakeup in station commanders. The move meant that contro move meant that contro-versial Captain **Greg Cor-rales** was assigned to Mis-sion Station, which over-sees the Castro. Gay ac-tivists were skeptical of the move, as Corrales had clashed with medical marclashed with medical marijuana guru **Dennis Peron** and led police sweeps in the Polk District during his career. Openly gay Board of Supervisors President **Tom Ammiano** met with Corrales and said he'd take a "wait and see" approach. Castro merchants also met with the new captain.

Gay former Supervisor Harry Britt, locked in a nasty battle against openly gay Supervi-sor **Mark Leno** for the Democratic nominasor Mark Leno for the Democratic nomination for the 13th District Assembly seat, made headlines with an off-hand remark that seemed to disparage people living with HIV/AIDS. Just before a political function, Britt allegedly told Leno, "you young guys spread disease" after Leno said, "Well, I wanted to give Harry a kiss but he wouldn't let me." Britt's comment, apparently referring to

the AIDS epidemic, shocked other witnesses. A brief statement put out by Britt's campaign did not specifically address the comment. "The unplanned and friendly chat between Mark and me ... about kissing had nothing to do with HIV and he knows that," Britt stat-

> Darlene Weide was named executive director of the Stop AIDS Project.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center was named after the late **Charles "Chuck" Holmes**, the founder of Falcon Studios, a gay adult video business. Holmes died of AIDS complica-tions on September 9, 2000. He contributed to many gay rights organiza-tions. The center's board of directors made the announcement after receiving a \$1 million donation from Holmes's estate



Ex-Supervisor Harry Britt

Openly gay AIDS advocate Mark Cloutier was named executive director of Continuum, a Tenderloin-based AIDS service organization that provides daytime services for several hundred clients.

Lance Evans, a gay reporter for KPIX-TV, sued the local CBS affiliate and its parent company for racial discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Evans, who is black, claimed that management denied him the right to audition for an anchor spot while at the same time he watched white colleagues

page 12 ▶

INSIDE	
BAR Talk	37
Classifieds	20
Crime & Punishment	11
Lavender Tube	36
Lesbian Notions	10
Mailstrom	7
Mister Marcus	32
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out There	26
Out & About	30
Past Out	8
Personals	37
Sports Complex	18

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AIDS Ride Web site folds

by Zak Szymanski

on't try to visit the California AIDS Ride Web site. It's not there.

The site became inactive – as The site became inactive – as promised by AIDS Ride producers Pallotta Teamworks – at 5 p.m. on Monday, December 30. Usually reached at www.bethepeople.com, the site is no longer recognized as a valid address online. Pallotta Teamworks suffered

great financial losses over the last two years when many of its beneficiaries – including former AIDS Ride participants the San Francis-co AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center – ended their contracts with the forprofit event producers, citing low returns to charity and less than

Correction

In last week's article about the AIDS Emergency Fund ["Four nonprofit agencies weather dreary financial year," Dec. 26] it should have stated the fund has had to temporarily reduce grant amounts or restrict client eligibility six times during its 20-year history. In the past, clients have been restricted to \$1,000 lifetime caps in the amount of grants they could receive from the fund. The Bay Area Reporter regrets the

gust, Pallotta closed its Los Angeles offices and laid off its employees in an attempt, said representa-tives, to cut costs so that its events could continue. However, Pallotta had already canceled its AIDS vac-cine rides and ended its relationship with Avon's breast cancer

Avon's breast cancer fundraisers are not reachable through the Pallotta Web site anymore either, although information on the sponsored site (www.avonwalk. org). And while none of Pallotta's event links are working, the main Pallotta site itself is still up and running at www.pallottateam-works.com. Fittingly, the Web works.com. Fittingry, the Web site's link to employment oppor-tunities states that there are "no positions currently available." Don't try to call Pallotta Team-works, either – the phone center is

also now closed, according to a recording. ▼

Deadline near for LGBT advisory committee slots

by Zak Szymanski

ommunity members with an area of expertise or a background in relevant issues are invited to apply to serve on the LGBT advisory committee of the San Francisco Human

Rights Commission.

The committee helps to make recommendations that direct public policy and influence civil rights guidelines as they relate to LGBT issues in San Francisco. In the last year, its focus has included seniors, immigration and asylum, transgender rights, and intersex issues. The committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m., and interested members must be able to commit to these meetings as well as special pro-

jects.
Interested applicants who are San Francisco residents and skilled in areas such as HIV/AIDS, antiviolence work, civil rights, class, disability, diversity, education, gender, health, and women's, senior, or youth issues should send a letter detailing why they would like to serve, their community involvement and areas of specialty, and any other qualities they could bring to the committee.

bring to the committee.

Applications should be sent to Janel Wong, SF Human Rights Commission, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94102-6033. Applications can also be faxed to (415) 431-5764.

All applications must be received by the Human Rights Commission no later than Thursday, January 16, at 5 p.m. ▼

N THE CAS



San Francisco **PROCLAMATION**



WHEREAS, LEYLAND PUBLICATIONS/GAY SUNSHINE PRESS HAS BEEN PUBLISHING QUEER BOOKS IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR THE PAST 27 YEARS - WITH NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION; AND,

WHEREAS, OVER 120 PIONEERING/GROUND BREAKING BOOKS ON QUEER CULTURE HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED BY SAID PRESS, INCLUDING MUCH MATERIAL FROM THE THIRD WORLD AND OTHER CULTURES, SUCH AS THE TWO LATIN AMERICAN FICTION COLLECTIONS, JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN LITERATURE ANTHOLOGIES, NOVEL FROM THE CHINESE, WORK BY MANY CALIFORNIA AND SAN FRANCISCO WRITERS: AND.

WHEREAS, WINSTON LEYLAND HAS BEEN THE PUBLISHER OF SAID PRESS DURING THE PERIOD IN WHICH THESE BOOKS APPEARED TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL ACCLAIM; AND

WHEREAS, THE LATEST BOOK FROM LEYLAND PUBLICATIONS, "OUT IN THE CASTRO; DESIRE, PROMISE, ACTIVISM," IS THE FIRST BOOK OF ITS KIND TO CELEBRATE THE DIVERSITY AND INNOVATION OF ONE OF SAN FRANCISCO'S MOST UNIQUE NEIGHBORHOODS DURING A 50-YEAR PERIOD; AND, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DECLARES JUNE 25, 2002 AS "LEYLAND PUBLICATIONS/GAY SUNSHINE PRESS DAY" IN COMMEMORATION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PRESS AND ITS PUBLISHER, WINSTON LEYLAND DURING THE PAST QUARTER OF A CENTURY, IN PARTICULAR THE APPEARANCE OF THIS PIONEERING BOOK ON THE HISTORY, CULTURE, POLITICS OF SAN FRANCISCO'S CASTRO DISTRICT.

N RECOGNITION WHEREOF, I HAVE HERE UNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO TO BE AFFIXED.

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Books Inc.; Does Your Father Know; Rock Hard; and selected other S.F. bookstores.

NGLTF announces opposition to war

by Liz Highleyman

he National Gay and Lesbian Task Force last week announced its opposition to

announced its opposition to war against Iraq, joining a new coalition called "Keep America Safe: Win Without War."

Among the founding members of the broad-based coalition, launched December 11, are the NAACP, the National Organization for Women the Sierra Club. tion for Women, the Sierra Club, the National Council of Church-es, and Physicians for Social Re-

sponsibility.

NGLTF made its announce-

ment December 26.

"In the aftermath of September 11, we have grown increasingly alarmed that under the guise of a nation at war, the Bush adminisa nation at war, the Bush administration has eviscerated many of the fundamental principles upon which this nation was founded and which are at the very core of our free and democratic society," said Executive Director Lorri Jean in announcing NGLTP's decision to join Win Without War. "Without the constitutional rights and out the constitutional rights and protections now being gutted by this administration, our GLBT movement would not be where it

"We believe that a preemptive military invasion of Iraq will harm American national inter-ests," read a statement issued by



NGLTF's Lorri Jean

Win Without War, "Unprovoked war will increase human suffering, arouse animosity toward our country, increase the likelihood of terrorist attacks, damage the econ-

omy, and undermine our moral standing in the world. It will make us less, not more, secure." The coalition favors legal, diplomatic means as part of an in-ternational effort to disarm Sad-

dam Hussein.
NGLTF had come under fire in the past month for not moving more quickly to declare its opposition to war. At the group's Cre

ating Change conference in November, anti-war activists including members of the American Friends Service Committee, the Lavender Green Caucus, and queer Muslim group Al-Fatiha demanded that NGLTF take a stand against the impending conflict. At a plenary session a majority of conference participants called for NGLTF to take an anti-war posi-NGLTF to take an anti-war posi-

On December 10, San Francis-co-based Out Against the War called for a boycott of NGLTF until it took a public anti-war stance, but the effort did not re-city widespread community our ceive widespread community sup-

"This war will not bring about justice or the liberation of any-one," said Out Against the War's Kevin Weaver. "There are many nonviolent ways to support the Iraqi people so that they may bring about democracy in their country and foster a culture of tol-

Although a majority of NGLTP's staff and board made clear that they personally oppose war, the group said in November that it needed more time to follow its decision-making process and consult its constituents. Some critics of the delay suggested that the organization feared criticism and a loss of financial support, as against the 1991 Gulf War.



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Gay man runs for **Napa City Council seat**

by Matthew S. Bajko

former San Franciscan hopes to become the first openly gay man elected to the Napa City Council. Chris Ed-wards is running in the March election for a seat on the North

Bay city's council.
Edwards, 38, used to tend bar on weekends at the Giraffe on Polk Street and lived in the Avrous across from Golden Gate Park in the late 1990s. With his partner, Scott Butler, a gay and les-bian liaison for both Willie Brown and Frank Jordan's mayoral cam-paigns, he moved to Napa three

If voters elect him to one of two open seats, Edwards would also become the first person associated with the wine industry to sit on the local council. Edwards is the director of operations and logistics for American Canyon-based New Vine Logistics, a wine distribution and fulfillment com-

Although his campaign is a first for Napa's LGBT community, Edwards said his candidacy is not



Napa candidate Chris Edwards

ning on a pro-family, pro-business platform, calling for enhanced support of the arts, a transit plan for the North Bay, and echoing San Francisco's Care Not Cash initiative, a partnership between business, community and government leaders to tackle the city's

"Napa is at a crossroads in its growth and in its planning. I thought, what a better time than now," Edwards said of his decision to enter the race.

He said the current council members "don't seem to have much of a vision for change. They want to keep Napa as is – a small conservative town. If they had their way there would be no growth. They would hang a sign 'Napa is full' on the door. The reality is we can't do that."

Along with Edwards, four other candidates are running against the two incumbents for their seats. With little name recognition, Edwards said he knows he

nition, Edwards said he knows he

nition, Edwards said he knows he is an underdog in the race.

It is not only his being gay which could be a problem for his campaign. His partner is HIV-positive which could become a liability if the race turns negative in this conservative North Bay en-

clave.
"I think it will be a hurdle, absolutely," he said of his sexual orientation. "Napa is a Republican stronghold, so yeah, I think there is definite potential for attacks. We had concern about attacks on

nad concern about attacks on [Scott's] condition. But we are up to the challenge if there are." Butler said he is prepared for whatever mud is slung his and Ed-wards's way during the campaign. Acting as a campaign consultant,

page 18 ▶

New group unites Napa's gay community

by Matthew S. Bajko

here are no gay bars. No gay coffee shops. There's no gay district to speak of in Napa

But there are gay people populating the North Bay wine counreturn And for the first time the gay community is uniting and band-ing together not only to offer friendship and support but to end the isolation for many queer resi-

the isolation for many queer residents in the area.

"There was nothing to get all gay people together. Everybody up here felt they was just kind of by themselves or had a few friends. There wasn't any unification or social networking," said Ross Jacobs, a gay interior designer who left Silicon Valley three years ago to settle in St. Helena.

While he had joined a gay

to settle in St. Helena.
While he had joined a gay
men's group, Jacobs felt something more was needed to bring
both gay men and lesbians together in the valley. So in March 2002,
he helped form the North Bay
Unity League with other queer
residents.

Over the last nine months, the unity league has been phenomenally successful. The group meets once a month for general meetonce a motion of general infections, holds social events, goes on outdoor outings, and volunteers on numerous public projects with various social service agencies.

"We hear from a lot of people

"We hear from a lot of people who just moved to Napa and are feeling like they are on an island. Then they come to a social event and they start to feel connected," said Deb Stallings, an out lesbian who is the development director for the Napa Valley Opera House. Stallings, who left San Francis-

co to move up north two years ago, lives with her partner, Char-lene Fifer, in Suisun City. She joined the unity league last April in order to seek out other queer

"I did not move here to be surrounded by straight white peo-ple," joked Stallings of the area's more conservative reputation. The group's coming out to the

more conservative reputation.

The group's coming out to the greater community came last June, when the members petitioned Napa's mayor to sign a gay Pride month proclamation. To their delight, he signed the decree.

"When 45 of us showed up to get the city proclamation, they were blown away," Stallings said of the Napa City Council. "There are usually four or five people in there if you count the press. They realized this is bigger than a few radical people rattling their sabers."

Due to the publicity surrounding the gay Pride issue in the local press, the unity league has attracted a large number of queer Napa residents, with 30 people on average coming to meetings.

Helping the gay community is just one of the unity league's activities. To date, the group has worked on building a community playground, spent time with senior citizens during the holidays, and adopted a shelter for battered women and children. It is also helping to ease the transition for gay people relocating to the Napa helping to ease the transition for gay people relocating to the Napa Valley from areas with more no-

ticeable gay life.

"It has been wonderful because there is that sense of community. I have been embraced by this group of people and they're good, gen-uine people," said out lesbian Mona Huisman, who moved to St. Helena from Houston last August. An occupational therapist who moved to the area to learn about wine-making, Huisman attended a wine tasting event the gay group hosted and said she felt instantly welcomed by the members.

"It was the most wonderful,

gracious group of people," she

Apart from offering social sup-port for gays and lesbians, the unity league is also breaking down barriers with straight neighbors. By working together with differ-ent community groups and town officials, unity league members are also tackling gay stereotypes their neighbors may hold. "It is not just so we can do

"It is not just so we can do good for the communities in the valley but also so the people here can see gay people are just like anybody else," said Jacobs. "We are part of the community and we want to help the community."

In 2003, the group will enter the world of local politics, actively working to elect Chris Edwards as the first openly gay person on the Napa City Council [see story above]. The unity league hopes the new found visibility for gay peo-

above. The unity league nopes the new found visibility for gay peo-ple in the area will encourage other queer residents to run for public office. "We have a social justice com-

mittee formed to help with political events and help the people who wish to run as representatives of gay people on city councils and supervisor's offices," said Jacobs. The unity league holds its gen-eral meetings the first Monday of each month. Its next meeting will

be Monday, January 6 at 6 p.m. at the Embassy Suites in Napa. For more information, call Jacobs at (707) 963-7844 or visit the group's Web site at www.unityleague.org.

LGBT state legislative preview

by Joe Dignan

alifornia's five gay and les-bian state legislators have outlined an ambitious agenda for the coming year, including a broad expansion of state-level

domestic partner benefits.

They may just get it done. After
the November elections, California now has the largest LGBT legislative caucus in the nation. Two new Northern California legislators, Mark Leno (D-San Francis co) and John Laird (D-Boulder Creek) were sworn in December 2 and join three veterans. Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), now a state senator, and Assembly-women Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles) and Christine Kehoe (D-

San Diego).

Leno said that the caucus has a good mix of veterans, like Kuehl, who was originally elected to the Assembly in 1993, and have, Leno said, "a greater sense of what is possible and what's not," com-bined with the enthusiasm of the rookies like himself.

rookies like himself.
"You have a couple of new kids
on the block, like John and me,"
Leno said. "We don't know what's
possible. We just want to do it all."
As reported in last week's Bay
Area Reporter, the centerpiece leg-

islation, a major expansion of do-mestic partnership benefits "will be the equivalent of what Ver-mont did with civil unions," ac-cording to Geoff Kors, executive director of the California Alliance Pride and Equality, an LGBT

The group will not push for a gay marriage bill, which Governor Gray Davis has said he would not sign, nor, according to Kors, are they likely to use the term "civil union" because, Kors said, "the public knows the term domestic pushbarrship."

public knows the term domestic partnership."

The bill is likely to add the phrase "or domestic partner" wherever the word "spouse" appears in California's codes.

"One line," Leno said, "but the bill would be three feet thick, be-

cause it would change every code in the state, just like the Vermont

bill.

According to Kors, the most important effects of the bill would be on money and children. Domestic partners would be subject to the same rules as married couples regarding community property. They would also be able to file state income tax returns joint-

More than a thousand of Cali-fornia's laws would be affected, but, also like Vermont's civil unions, the results would not be called marriage so the rights would not be portable across state

Other bills

Kehoe, chair of the LGBT caucus, also reintroduced an equal benefits ordinance, AB17, on the first day of the session last month, which would require businesses contracting with the state to pro-



vide the same benefits for domestic partners as they do for spouses.

A similar bill, introduced late

last year, passed the Senate but stalled in an Assembly committee.

The legislation is modeled on San Francisco's landmark 1996 San Francisco's landmark 1996 law, but Kehoe's new version includes language that allows employees to designate any "legally domiciled member" of a household as a beneficiary, without using the term domestic partner. The move was made to satisfy the objections of religious organizations that opposed last year's legislation.

Leno will introduce a bill making gender identity a protected class under state law. Transgendered people are already provided for in California's hate crimes statutes, and in Kuehl's 1999 safe schools act, but they are not covered by the state's fair employ-

ment and housing statutes.

Leno said that the bill would clarify the definition of sex for purposes of non-discrimination in housing and employment to in-

"That means your gender is as you define it," Leno said. Goldberg introduced a similar bill last year, but it never made it

to a floor vote.

Assemblywoman Judy Chu (D-Monterey Park) will reintro-duce her foster care bill which re-quires sensitivity to sexual orien-

dures sensitivity to sexual orien-tation and gender identity in the foster care system.

"When they have a child that has gender differences or sexual orientation differences, foster parents usually don't know how to handle it. A lot of times the foster parents will try and conform them into societal gender stereotypes," said Vanessa Edwards Foster, board chair of the Houston-based National Transgender Advocacy

The bill will require training for both adoption agency person-nel and potential foster parents. Davis vetoed the bill last year,

citing the potential cost of the training programs, but some LGBT advocates, like Kors, said

the veto was politically motivated.

Laird said he was very unhappy with the veto and vowed to tinker with the bill, "and make the governor sign it this time around."

The caucus' efforts will be hampered by the state's widening budget deficit, now pegged by the governor's office at approximately \$3.4.8 billion over the next 18 months, about 40 percent of the state's general fund. Dealing with the deficit, and debating about how to pay for it, is bound to consume a lot of the Legislature's time this session.

this session.
"Of course there is the possi-Leno said, "but so much of that work will be curtailed due to the budget deficit. The degree to which we can succeed in addressing that crisis will decide what other issues can see the light of

Growing influence

But the influence of LGBT legislators in Sacramento has never been stronger. Caucus chair Kehoe was appointed as Assembly speak-er pro-tem. Leno was named chairman of the Assembly's Pub-lic Safety Committee, one of seven major standing committees. He will also sit on appropriations, revenue and taxation, and local

government.

Laird was named chairman of Environmental Safety and Toxics, and will sit, with Leno, on the Revenue and Taxation Commit-

rins will be a hell of a year to be on that one," Laird quipped, re-ferring to the taxation panel. CAPE's Kors said that, as of the November 5 election, five more progressive Democrats have re-placed moderates who, Kors said, "went to the bathroom when are went to the bathroom when our

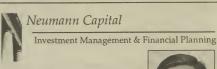
"went to the bathroom when our votes came up."
Laird said that despite the budget crisis, civil rights legislation has a chance this year. "People will be looking for non-budget things to be supportive of," he said. "Everyone in the Legislature will be looking for something positive to get behind."
He also predicted that the governor would be more likely to sign LGBT legislation in a non-election

LGBT legislation in a non-election

year.
"I think it's very important to look each year to some way to provide equal treatment for the LGBT community," said Kuehl.
"Now that there are five of us in the cause. We want to see what the caucus, we want to see what kind of reasonable, but not overly ambitious, agenda we can get







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Davis's unchecked power

Court decision gave Governor Gray
Davis vast authority to block parole for
convicted murderers, essentially giving him a blank check to keep inmates imprisoned after having served their sentences and practically rendering his own appointed parole board impotent. It was, in our view, the wrong decision for the high court to make.

The decision also means that at least two gay prisoners – Robert Rosenkrantz and Mark Smith – will not be released anytime soon, despite the parole board's decision to the contrary in both cases. In the case of Rosenkrantz, the governor is turning his back on someone who has paid for his crime and who by all accounts is a model prisoner who could lead a productive life in society. In the case of Smith, the governor is keeping a very sick man locked up when he should be released to live out his life in peace. Smith suffers from AIDS, Parkinson's disease, heart disease, and cancer. The decision also means that at least two

disease, heart disease, and cancer.

As most readers know, Smith and Rosenkrantz were each convicted of second-Rosenkrantz were each convicted of second-degree murder for unrelated homicides that occurred in Los Angeles County in 1985. Rosenkrantz shot and killed a former schoolmate, Steve Redman, after Redman physically attacked him and later outed him to his father. Smith was convicted for his role in the killing of a man in a dispute over drugs. When ordering his parole, a Los An-geles County court ruled that the evidence indicated that although Smith was with an-

gets county during that the evident indicated that although Smith was with another man who killed the victim, he was not directly involved in the killing.

Since taking office, Davis has allowed the release of only three convicted murderers, two of whom were women who killed their abuof whom were women who killed their abusive partners. Just last week, Joavis approved the parole of a 71-year-old man whose 1987 murder victim was described by prosecutors as a racist car vandal. In making the announcement, Davis stated that the man was a long-suffering victim of hate crimes. Well, what about the hate that Rosenkrantz endured when he was tormented and physically assaulted by his victim? We're certainly not justifying what Rosenkrantz did, but he has served his sentence, has expressed his reand two appeal court panels that have or-dered his release. Where is the consistency in

Davis will be sworn in on Mon-day, January 6 to a second four-year term. Since narrowly winyear term. Since narrowy will-ning re-election in November, Davis has told reporters that he wants to get out of Sacramento and listen to people – a clear attempt to dis-tance himself from voters' perceptions of **Editorial**

him as a governor who cares more about raising money for his next campaign than developing significant policy improvements on such issues as prison reform, expanded civil rights for the LGBT community, and other issues. With an estimated budget deficit of \$34.8 billion, Davis and

state legislators will have to look seriously at state legislators will have to look seriously at making cuts in services and some have sug-gested early release of certain prisoners as a way to save money. We believe that Rosenkrantz and Smith meet this crite-

ria. There are hundreds of other prisoners in the state who likely also could

De released under such a program.

Davis's extreme views on parole have resulted in keeping behind bars many prisoners who have been deemed suitable for release by the

governor's parole board. Davis's position is one with which we vehemently disagree. As he begins his second term, prisoner advocates and others will not let

Davis forget that regarding the subject of parole for eligible prisoners, the governor has a lot of listening to do.



Guest Opinion

green light to discrimina

by Michael Adams

n a slap in the face to the gay communi-ty, last month President Bush issued an executive order authorizing federal funding for religious groups that use their beliefs to justify discrimination in hiring. Bush heralded the order as ending the "days" of discriminating against religious groups just because they are religious" and gave himself a pat on the back for "fighting ageold attitudes, habits, and rules" that dis-criminate against faith. Ironically, the prescriminate against faith. Ironically, the president intends to help out faith groups by giving them federal funds to pay for another "age-old" habit – anti-gay bigotry dressed up as religion. Unfortunately, gays and lesbians are among the chief targets of publicly-funded religious groups that use their beliefs to justify employment discrimination.

Just ask Aimee Bellmore. Bellmore was a highly regarded youth counselor at the United Methodist Children's Home, a Geor-United Methodist Children's Home, a Georgia agency that gets 40 percent of its budget from tax dollars. But when the agency discovered that Bellmore is a lesbian, it promptly fired her. The reason given was straightforward: Bellmore's sexual orientation conflicts with the Methodist Children's Home's religious beliefs and teachings.

To be sure, gays and lesbians are not the only ones who are hurt by this publicly-financed discrimination. The same agency that fired Aimee Bellmore also refused to hire a highly qualified counselor named Alan Yorker. You see, Yorker is Jewish. When that inconvenient fact came out during his job interview, the discussion was terminat-

job interview, the discussion was terminated on the spot with the explanation that the publicly-funded Methodist Children's Home only hires Christians. (Bellmore and Yorker are both being represented by Lamb-

da Legal in a civil rights lawsuit against the Home and the state of Georgia, which pro-vides public funds to the agency.) President Bush's executive order places

rrestent busis executive order places the federal stamp of approval on such discriminatory practices, and encourages organizations like the Methodist Children's Home to apply for and receive federal funds. The only way the president could accomplish this was to cast aside a pre-existing ex-ecutive order that banned employment discrimination by federal contractors. That executive order had been in ef-fect since 1941! Thus the Bush ad-

ministration, in its zeal to funnel tax dollars to religious organizations, has turned the clock back more than 60 years on civil rights.
Some in the gay community have found a ray of light in the fact that the president in the fact that the fact that

dent did not heed right-

wing efforts to empower federally-funded religious groups to ignore state and local laws that prohibit employ-ment discrimination against gay people. While even the smallest of victories cannot be overlooked, this one is small indeed. First of all, only a dozen states, and even a smaller minority of cities and towns, have gay rights laws. Second of all, almost all of those laws explicitly exempt religious employers from coverage already. (While Lambda Legal and other civil rights organizations believe that this exemption cannot consti-tutionally be applied when a religious group receives public funds, it will take years for that issue to be definitively resolved by the

Of course, religious organizations like Catholic Charities and United Jewish Com-mittees have received public funding for years. But for more than 60 years federal funding came with the caveat that the con-

tractor was prohibited from discriminating in employment. This prohibition helped gay employees, even though sexual orientation was not explicitly included, because it was not expiritly included, decause it banned religiously-motivated discrimina-tion, whether that discrimination was against gays and lesbians like Aimee Bell-more or members of religious minorities like Alan Yorker. President Bush has now

thrown those protections out the window.

Our community must be clear about what's at stake. Under the president's new executive order our federal tax dollars will be used to subsidize organizations who

proudly trumpet their refusal to hire any gay or lesbian person. Apparently, we have a very long way to go to convince President Bush that he cannot sacrifice our community's aspira-

tions for equal treatment in order to give a boost to religious organizations who want to dip into the federal till.

But this battle is far from over. In the months ahead there will likely be efforts in Congress to beat back this latest assault on Congress to beat back this latest assault on civil rights. And lawsuits like Lambda Legal's challenge to public funding of the United Methodist Children's Home will continue and hopefully convince the courts to put a stop to public funding of discrimination. While the legal challenges may offer more hope than the political battles in the short term, our community must forcefully support all these efforts. We cannot sit by and quietly watch our own tax dollars be used to pay for discrimination against us.

Michael Adams is director of education and public affairs at the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund. For more information, visit www.lambdalegal.org.

LETTERS

AIDS Grove appreciated

Thursday, December 26 was a little bit rainy out in Golden Gate Park. I stopped at the AIDS Memorial Grove and for the first time since all this horror started for me back in 1982, I was able to cry. To those who made such a place available, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Milk Club still the best

I want to commend the Harvey Milk Club for taking a principled stand on the issues in this last elec-tion. The club and its officers are exactly what comes tion. The club and its officers are exactly what comes to mind when I think of queer/gay political leadership. Conversely, glancing at the list of financial backers of the Alice B. Toklas Club during the supervisor election reminded me what is so wrong in some gay political circles. I imagine people are sick of the fighting between the two clubs and want the "gay community" to work together. People shouldn't be so concerned. Common ground will come up now and then, but in the meantime, different alliances have formed around other issues than just sexual orientation. And those of us struggling to keep San Francisco tenantfriendly, diverse, and progressive will continue to rally behind the Milk Club and its broad-minded approach to SF politics.

Sarah Dotlich

Mailstrom

Artists speak out against war

We have seen the idea promoted by right-wing mouthpieces in the media that the views of Sean Penn, being those of an actor, are of no more value than those of

actor, are of no more value than those of the average working person, and so therefore, he should stick to acting and leave foreign policy to George Bush. I would like to respond that first, this happens to be a democracy and not a dictatorship; therefore the views of all working people, including actors and other artists, should be heard and deeply valued. Secondly, as one great poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, expressed in his essay "Defence of Poetry," true artists have a particular responsibility, being devoted to the creative spirit of mankind, to influence actual human events for the better. Shelley summed up his position stating that they are "the unacknowledged legislators of the world." The words of Sean Penn, and of many other working people as well, are far more precious than anything coming out of the present administration in Washington.

Graphic AIDS campaign welcomed

I applaud the Stop AIDS Project's graphic cam-paign against unsafe sex. It seems irresponsible to ob-ject to it, as some of your readers did in the December

The disease is terrible to watch. Even at this very late date, young people – and older ones – need to be reminded of its gruesome progress. Even with protease inhibitors, AIDS is a fatal disease. The "miracle" medicines – at least so far – are poisonous after a time. Heart problems, kidney disease, and lymphoma are

not uncommon.

I can't imagine why HIV-positive people would find the campaign insensitive — not if they care about their friends seroconverting. Positive people already know what to expect just hang out on Castro Street; walk into any restaurant, cafe, bar or gym and see the withered faces of otherwise handsome men.

The American Cancer Society did a similar campaign against smoking. (Remember the woman smoking a cigarette from a hole in her trachea?) It is true that it is difficult to prove how many people have been and will be dissuaded from unsafe sex by Stop AIDS ads, but desperate times require varied approaches. After 20-plus years, prevention is still our best hope.

Doesn't support call for boycott

Kevin Weaver of the Out Against the War Coalition wants us to boycott the National Gay and Les-KeVin Weaver of the Out Against the War Gainston wants us to boycott the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to pressure it into taking a public position against the war with Iraq [Mailstrom, December 19]. I don't support such an action. It isn't at all clear that it's appropriate for the NGLTF to take any stand at all on the question, any more that the City of Berkeley should have its own foreign policy. Nor is it clear that the majority of gays and lesbians, outside of urban centers like New York and San Francisco, share Weaver's opinion on war with Iraq.

Weaver seems to assume as self-evident that anyone who supports "human rights and social justice" will of course oppose this war. But that isn't self-evident to the Iraqi Kurds, whose human rights are currently protected by British and American aircraft patrols in the no-fly zones, and who are praying that the American don't abandon them as we did 10 years ago; nor by the Iraqi groups in exile, who have publicly proclaimed with one voice that only international military inter-

vention can end Saddam's tyranny. And it isn't self-evident to the hundreds of prisoners recently released in Baghdad (as a direct result of American pressure) who left their confinement shouting "Bush! Bush!"

In recent years American power has been used to end the tyrannies of men like Noriega, Milosevic, and Mullah Omar, yet all of these actions were opposed by many who imagine they are progressives, based on an unquestioned article of faith – that any use of American power must be in the service of oppression. That is why, when the Taliban fell, local "progressives" didn't celebrate along with the crowds in Kabul. The impending end of Saddam Hussein's reign of terror will surely be similarly celebrated by the citizens of Baghdad, but once again the "friends of the oppressed" in the Bay Area will remain silent.

[Editor's note: Since the above letter was received, NGLTF did decide to oppose the war with Iraq.]

Critical of NGLTF's decision

In response to the decision by the National Gay and In response to the decision by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to Join a coalition opposed to the prospective war against Saddam Hussein: It is hard to take seriously a claim of patriotism by people who ha-bitually blame the United States for everything. NGLTF Executive Director Lorri Jean displays her

bitually blame the United States for everything.

NGLTF Executive Director Lorri Jean displays her partisan motivation when she makes President Bush sound like a greater threat to this country than a man who has used poison gas against his own citizens and who governs by terror and harbors terrorists. While I share some of Jean's concerns about civil liberties, NGLTF's history of anti-American double standards gives it no credibility as a messenger. An organization that decries racism while excluding people from meetings based on race makes a mockery of the progressive about a dogmatic refusal to acknowledge that there are criminals and madmen in the world who will not be deterred by appeasement and who must be fought if our freedoms are to be protected.

Contrary to Jean's assertion, the Bush administration has not called for a unilateral invasion, but has worked with the United Nations. I note that the president's father also worked through the U.N., and that did not impress NGLTF last time. Also, the United States already has several allies on our side, so there is no prospect of unilateral action. In any case, no attack against Saddam Hussein could be unprovoked at this point, since Saddam has violated 16 U.N. resolutions and responded to the latest one with a blanket denial believed by no one. In an effort to wrap his crimes in religion, he has built many mosques, including the Mother of All Battles Mosque latest one with a blanket denial believed by no one. In an effort to wrap his crimes in religion, he has built many mosques, including the Mother of All Battles Mosque with minarets shaped like Scud missiles and a Qu'ran written in ink made from his own blood. This is not a

man who can be reasoned with.

It is revealing that NGLTF cites the boundlessly mive Jimmy Carter, who has seldom met a brutal dictator he didn't like, and who was much harder on our closest Middle East ally, Israel, than he was on her anti-democratic enemies. I respect and admire his hu-manitarian efforts around the world, but his judg-ment on foreign policy is about as sound as Neville Chamberlain's

In case the folks at NGLTF haven't noticed, the world

In case the folks at NGLTF haven't noticed, the world has spent the past decade exhausting every peaceful recourse. As to what America is all about, I would remind the members of this foolish coalition that this country was founded by people who had to fight for their liberty, and, in the words of the last stanza of our national anthem, stood "between their loved homes and the war's desolation." There is a price for liberty that these folks refuse even to understand much less pay.

As was the case 12 years ago, most gay Americans appear to agree with the vast majority of their fellow citizens in supporting the president's position against Saddam. If there is any gay angle to the war facing us, surely it is that the removal of Saddam Hussein, which is not about to happen by peaceful means, would be the best thing that could happen to gay people in that part of the world. As the Stonewall rioters demonstrated 33 years ago, sometimes you have to fight bac—and, contrary to the perpetually alienated among us, gays are citizens too. gays are citizens too.

Washington, D.C.

Dufty's true colors

Dufty's true colors

On election night Bevan Dufty was quoted as saying, "I want to be someone on the board that tries to work out compromises ..." and "I ask that the community ... help set my agenda." Well it seems his agenda is already set and it has nothing to do with compromise. His first vote on the board was against the compromise settlement between landlords and tenants on improvement passthroughs. What community did he consult? Apparently, the most recalcitrant, uncompromising landlord group – the Small Property Owners Association. They're the only group not supporting the compromise.

Mark Barnes

Mark Barnes

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Who was **Howard Ashman?**

by David Bianco

any of the great lyricists of the 20th century (Cole Porter, Jerry Herman, Stephen Sondheim) were gay, and one of the most talented, Howard Ashman, was a brilliant word-smith whose playful rhymes and moving poetry helped simultane-ously to revive and "queer" the films of the legendary giant of an-imation, Disney Studios. Ash-man's untimely death from AIDS at the age of 40 came just as he was reaching his professional and

creative peak.

Born in Baltimore, Ashman was educated in New England and the Midwest but soon moved to New York and began working as

New York and began working as an editor and playwright. Among his early works was a 1977 musical version of Shakespeare's The Tempest, called Dreamstuff. His work on Dreamstuff brought him to the offoff-Broadway WPA Theatre, and for five years he brought tremendous energy and creativity to the productions at that institution.

One WPA pro-

One WPA pro-duction, a 1979 mu-

Vonnegut's God Bless
You, Mr. Rosewater, paired him with the composer with whom he'd be linked creatively for the rest of his life: Alan Menken. Three years later, the Ashman-Menken team developed a stage version of a schlocky black-and-white sci-fi/horror movie called Little Shop of Horrors. The playful, tongue-in-cheek musical about a skid-row floral assistant who discovers a flesh-eating exotic plant ran for more than 2,200 perfor-mances off-Broadway, setting fi-

In 1986, Little Shop was made into a feature film, penned by Ashman, produced by David Gef-fen, and directed by Muppet vet-eran Frank Oz. The movie was both a commercial and critical both a commercial and critical success, and one of the Ashman-Menken songs, "Mean Green Mother from Outer Space," was nominated for an Academy

More important, the attention from *Little Shop* brought suitors calling, including the Walt Disney Company, which invited Ashman and Menken to collaborate on an animated feature, which eventually became 1989's *The Little Mer*maid. Mermaid was based on one of the tales by gay fairy-tale spin-ner Hans Christian Andersen, and Ashman intensified its queer sensibility. The film is structured like a conventional Broadway musical.



Lyricist Howard Ashman

with songs that move the story forward and express the charac-

ters' motivations and desires.

The villain's song in Mermaid, "Poor Unfortunate Souls," has a particular queer verve, and has been described as everything

from a lesbian come-on to a drag queen's manifesto, as the evil sea witch Ursula beguiles the mermaid Ariel with such clever lyrics as

The men up there don't like a lot of blabber They think a girl who **Past Out** gossips is a bore Yes, on land it's much

preferred For ladies not to say a word And after all, dear, what is idle prattle for?

The Little Mermaid was Disney's first animated smash in more than a decade and is widely credited with starting a "Golden credited with starting a "Golden Age" of Disney animation. Ashman and Menken won an Oscar for their showstopper "Under the Sea," and the pair was invited to create songs and story for Disney's next musical feature, Beauty and the Beast.

But as he worked on Beauty. Ashman was becoming increasingly sick from AIDS and aware that he might be dying. Many commentators have suggested that he consciously designed the film to be a metaphor for the discrim-ination and forbidden love he experienced in his own life as a gay man with AIDS.

man with AIDS.

Indeed, Beauty's release, and
the overwhelming adulation that
ensued, came eight months after
Ashman's death in March 1991.
Disney recognized Ashman's
tremendous contribution to the
film and the company's fortunes
by dedicating it to the man "who
gave a mermaid her voice and a
beast his soul."

The film was a commercial

The film was a commercial smash, earning more than \$140 million at the box office and stay-

ing in theaters for more than 40 weeks. It was nominated for six Oscars, including Best Picture (a first for an animated film), and it won a Best Song Oscar for the title track, which was accepted by Ash-

track, which was accepted by Ashman's lover Bill Lauch, also a first.

Before his death, Ashman also
contributed to a third Disney musical, Aladdin. All three Disney films had themes that resonated with Ashman's experiences as a gay man; they're about forbidden love, overcoming social strictures, and main characters who yearn for the ability to be themselves.

There is some evidence that powers that be at Disney intervened to tone down even some of the subtle pro-gay messages in Ashman's lyrics. For example, the initial soundtrack to Beauty and the Beast contained a line about how the Beast could become human again if he learned "to love another, and earn their love in reanother, and earn their love in return." By the time the film was released a few months later, the line had been changed to "earn her love in return." In addition, a song Ashman wrote for Aladdin called "Proud of Your Boy," in which the hero's mother promised to love him however he lived his life, was cut from the film entirely.

Ashman's creative spirit contin-

Ashman's creative spirit contin-ues to wow audiences more than a decade after his death. In 2002, an IMAX version of Beauty and the Beast included an Ashman-Menken song cut from the original film, and the theatrical version of the film is now the second-longestthe lim is now the second-iongest-running show still on Broadway. Meanwhile, Little Shop of Horrors has become the most popular choice for American high schools looking for a musical production, and a professional production of it is set to debut on Broadway in 2003, with stage versions of both *The Little Mermaid* and *Aladdin* in the works as well. ▼

David Bianco is the author of Gay Essentials: Facts for your Queer Brain. He can be reached care of this publication or at POcolumn@aol.com

Suggested reading

Griffin, Sean. Tinker Belles and Evil Queens: The Walt Disney Company from the Inside Out, 2002

Erb, Cynthia. "Another World or the World of an Other?: The Space of Ro-mance in Recent Versions of 'Beauty and the Beast,"' Cinema Journal 34:4 (Summer 1995): 50-70.

State tax board

People have to be made aware People have to be made aware this is another level of inequality for the lesbian and gay communi-ty. We stood up to that," said Chun, an attorney who will return

Assessor-elect Mabel Teng, who will be sworn in on January 8, was out of town this week and could not be reached for comment. She has been briefed by the city attorney's office on the mat-ter, and while campaigning for the position, Teng did express support

who won a seat to the Board of Equalization in November, will be sworn into office Monday, January 6. Migden was also out of town this week but is expected to address the issue once seated on the board.

In his letter, Hoyer states the assessor's ruling is "fatally flawed for two reasons." The first, he states, is the state's tax code excludes from change in ownership and reappraisal property transfers only "between spouses."

The second reason, writes Hoyer, is that the ruling is in direct violation of the state Constitution which

states "an administrative agency has no power to declare a statute unenforceable or to declare a statute un-

forceable or to declare a statute un-constitutional on the basis of un-constitutionality" unless an appel-late court has so determined.

Hoyer goes on to state in the letter that the Legislature and Constitution granted the inter-spousal exclusion as "limited ex-clusively to 'spouses' i.e., a hus-band and wife in marriage." He further states that registered do-mestic partners are not defined or treated as "spouses" nor does the state's family code recognize the existence of spousal status in nonexistence of spousal status in non-

page 16 ▶

CA House members' new clout on Capitol H

by Wayne Friday

hen the new Congress nen the new Congress convenes next week, California's House delegation – Democrats and Republicans alike – will hold what could be an all-time record of power positions on Capitol Hill.

San Francisco's Representative

Nancy Pelosi, the House Demo-

cratic leader-elect, will become the most powerful woman in Congress even though she is a member of the minority party. Though Democrats lost five House seats in Democrats lost nive House seats in the November election, failing to retake control of that body for the fourth straight election, Pelosi and one of her closest political allies – Representative Robert Matsui (D-Sacramento) – will have plenty of political muscle in the in-

coming Congress.

Last week, Pelosi personally chose Matsui to become the party's new chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, succeeding the outgo-ing chair, Representative Nita Lowey of New York. As chair of the DCCC, Matsui will be the first Asian American to serve in the highest levels of the House Demo-cratic leadership. Though some Democratic House members questioned the wisdom of picking another Northern Californian for the position, Pelosi said she chose Matsui because he "is an expert on complex issues, including tax pol-icy, international trade, Social Se-curity, and health care." Pelosi also curity, and health care." Pelosi also said that Matsui, a 24-year veteran of the House, has "the legislative and political leadership that makes him extremely qualified to bring the Democrats to victory in 2004 by attracting grassroots and financial support across that nation." That, of course, remains to be seen, but indeed, helping House Democrats regain control in 2004 will be Matsui's main goal. Matsui is currently the ranking member of the House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee, where he has been leading the Democra-

cial Security Subcommittee, where he has been leading the Democratic effort to oppose the privatization of Social Security and protect the program's guaranteed benefits. On the other side of the aisle, though Republicans hold only 20 of California's 53 House seats,

many have seniority that will bring them powerful positions in the new GOP-controlled House of Representatives. Representative Representatives. Representative **Duncan Hunter** (R-Alpine), is expected to be named chair of the powerful House Armed Services powerful House Armed Services Committee next week; two other California Republicans already head important committees: Rep-resentative Bill Thomas (R-Bak-ersfield), heads the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee and Representative David Dreier (R-San Dimas), chairs the powerful San Dimas), chairs the powerful House Rules Committee that decides which legislation actually comes to the House floor.

California GOP House mem-

bers are also vying next week to chair two other top committees: Representatives **Elton Gallegly** (Simi Valley), Ken Calvert (Corona), and Richard Pombo (Tracy) are all in contention to become chair of the House Resources Committee, which over-sees national forests and parks. This includes millions of acres of Western land, and the three Cali-fornians are battling two Eastern

Republicans to succeed retiring Representative **James Hansen** (R-Utah), to become chair of the important resources panel.

California Representative Chris Cox (R-Newport Beach), is also in LOX (R-Newport Beach), is also in the running to head the Govern-ment Reform Committee, but faces tough competition from Represen-tative Thomas Davis (R-Virginia), who is credited with helping his party pick up five House seats in the recent election.

Despite California being over-

Despite California being over-whelmingly Democratic, the state by its sheer size – the 53-member delegation is the largest in the country – cannot be ignored by the Republican-controlled Congress or the Bush White House. While California's profile on Capitol Hill has clearly been heightened by the Democrats' selection of

Pelosi as the new minori-ty leader, it is the grow-ing influence of the state's 20 Republican House mem-bers that is equally note-Our Man

I'm not sure that it is all that I'm not sure that it is all that promising for a liberal or even moderate agenda, but California also will have three seats (more than any other state) among the 10 or so members who meet weekly with House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Illinois) to plot legislative strategy; the three are Representatives Dreier, Cox, and John Doolittle (R-Rocklin), an ultraconservative who was recently

Doolittle (R-Rocklin), an ultraconservative who was recently elected GOP conference secretary.
Indeed, one longtime Capitol Hill observer, University of Virginia political scientist Larry
Sahato, told the Los Angeles Times
last week that "considering how
Democratic California has become, it is remarkable that the
Golden State will be so powerful
in a Republican House." Incidentally, there were reports that Matsui even commented that he was
"hopeful" that having Californians in these key House positions
could shield the state from some
federal budget cuts expected in
domestic programs. For California, Matsui said, "maybe it won't
be as bad as it could be."

Politics and people

In San Francisco, some City
Hall insiders insist that this year's
mayor's race is Supervisor Gavin
Newsom's to lose, but Treasurer
Susan Leal's supporters also insist that their candidate is a serivery serious - candidate in that race.

Meanwhile, some of those same City Hall wags are predicting that Supervisor **Sophie Maxwell** will end up as the new president of the Board of Supes when members vote January 8. The first regular board meeting of the new year is Monday, January 13. Board meetings will switch to Tuesdays at 2 p.m. starting in February.

Single again: Newly elected District 8 Supervisor **Bevan Dufty**'s December 10 victory came with a Meanwhile, some of those

becember 10 victory came with a price – he and **David Peckman**, his partner of 18 years, have called it quits. "He's moving to London to further his art studies," Dufty told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Calling it "a sad loss," Dufty said the split was amicable. He said he plans to desert himself to his work.

vote himself to his work.

Thirty-one years after the first gay rights bill was introduced in

New York state, the New York Legislature recently passed – and the governor signed into law – a bill extending civil rights protections to gays and lesbians in the Empire State, making it the 13th state to include gays and lesbians in its civil rights laws. The law protects thousands in New York from discrimination in housing, employcrimination in housing, employment, credit, and public accom-

modations.

All in the family: The appointment last week by Alaska's new governor, Frank Murkowski, of his daughter, state Representative Lisa Murkowski, a Republican, to fill out his remaining two years in the U.S. Senate means the new

Senate will have an all-time record 14 female members. The new gover-nor had the power to appoint his succes-sor, and hey, what's wrong with a little blatant old-fashioned political nepotism?

town of Bolton, Ver-

mont, popula-tion 971, has become one of the state's most popular towns for same-sex civil unions. **Ken Richardson** said catering to people seeking civil unions has in-creased his business at the Black Bear Inn by 20 percent. Only three other communities have issued more licenses since the state law took effect in 2000. (So don't visit

Friday

took effect in 2000. (So don't visit Bolton looking for a mate; they're all taken, apparently.)

Unless you frequently see this woman on television you likely won't find this one all that amusing, but I did, so ... in contrast to those boring "Hot Lists" and "Power Lists" that celeb magazines churn out annually, the New York Post has found an interesting alternative in the Buffalo Beast's "50 Most Loathsome People in America" list. Based in upstate New York, the Beast is run by the same people behind the Moscow-based people behind the Moscow-based expatriate newspaper the eXile. No. 1. on its list was ultra-conservative author and TV talking head Ann Coulter. "The merger of



Talking head Ann Coulter

bimbo sex appeal and neo-fascist language ... Eva Braun meets Sex and the City," was how the publi-

and the City, was now the publi-cation put it.

Speaking of which, a recent Gallup Poll found that Hillary Rodham Clinton, Laura Bush, and Jennifer Lopez have someand Jennifer Lopez have something in common: Americans like them. In fact, while Clinton topped the list of "most admired" American women, Bush and Oprah Winfrey tied for second place. J. Lo, no doubt aided by her pending nuptials to H'wood hunk Ben Affleck, ended up sixth, putting her on an even par with next page ▶



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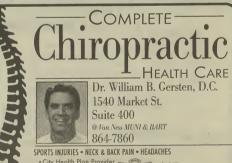
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What's in store after Gore?

by Paula Martinac

lthough we've been spared the ordeal of a Bush v. Gore rematch, it's hard to look at the possible Democratic nomifor president in 2004 and not become dejected. It's true that many of the White House wannabes have good-House wannabes have good to-excellent records on gay is sues. But for progressive queers for whom "gay issues" just aren't enough, the choices among likely

Democratic nominees are dim, with former Gover nor Howard Dean of Ver-

mont present-ing perhaps the most appealing

Lesbian Notions

At the head of the Democratic pack is Senator John Kerry (Massachusetts), who will probably be a favorite among lesbian and gay middle-of-the-roaders, including some of our national organiza-tions. Kerry's support of gay issues has indeed been exemplary. Most noteworthy, he was one of a small band of senators who actually voted against the odious Defense of Marriage Act in 1996 in a re-

election year.

But Kerry presents progressive voters with a mass of contradic-

tions. A decorated Vietnam vet, he later became an anti-war activist — which should have made him a good choice for lefties. But he's become more hawkish post-September 11, voting last fall to auto make war on Iraq. Undoubted-ly shell-shocked by the defeat

of another distinguished veteran, Senator Max Cle-land (D-Georgia), in the 2002 election, Kerry has been tuning up his patriotic rhetoric. It's easy to imag-ine a Bush versus Kerry showdown turning into a pissing match about who is the greater

"patriot" - just what the

needs in the face of looming, larger issues like the economy, Social Security, health insurance, and

For feminists, Kerry's domestic record also leaves something to be desired. Painted by conservatives as a fringe liberal, he's actually not. In the past, Kerry, like other so-called new Democrats, has scapegoated "broken families" headed by single mothers on wel-fare as the source of many of society's ills, including crime and vio-

The other high-profile Democrat who will apparently make a

tor Joe Lieberman of Connecticut would be historic. But though it would be great to loosen the stran-glehold that Protestants have had on the White House, White House, Lieberman is not a good choice for left-leaning voters, considering that he actually had some of his posi-tions on social issues

As far as I'm concerned, the less said about the potential candidacies of Senator Tom Daschle (D-South Dakota) and Representative Dick Gephardt (D-Missouri), the better. Those two have been so worried about damaging their own political futures that they've helped bring the Democratic Party to its lowest point

Likely candidate Senator John Edwards (D-North Carolina) seems to be one of those Clinton esque Southern Democrats who've become successful by blurring the differences between the parties on issues like tax cuts and defense. But with only four years in the Senate, Edwards's slim record should be watched more closely in coming months. (Gay men may also note that *People* magazine named him the "sexiest politician" of 2000.

ling of lesbians and gay men for

a majority of respondents to a Gallup poll last March said they worry "a great deal" about af-fordable health coverage. Dean would finance his

plan with a repeal of those parts of Bush's tax cuts that benefited high-income tax-

payers Dean's proposal should hold great interest for many LGBT voters. A recent survey by Witeck-Combs Communications suggested that we are less likely to

have health insurance than our non-gay counterparts. Indeed, much of the attractiveness of domestic partnership for gay couples is the health insurance

that often comes as a benefit. Personally, I prefer a candidate who takes risks and makes bold moves, like former Senator Bill Bradley (D-New Jersey) did in 2000 when he advocated amend-ing the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include gay people. Although Dean is a really dark horse - he has no money, and a recent poll put him at only 1 percent – his candidacy could help force the Democrats to address social issues like universal health care, abandoned by the party after the Clintons bungled it. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at PMcolumn@aol.com.



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Our Man Friday

previous page

the likes of National Security Ad

who the hell were they polling?)
Although women hold 36 seats in the new California Legislature, and two women, Dianne Feinstein and Barhara Boxer, have held the state's U.S. Senate seats for more than a decade, for the first time since 1967, no woman will hold a statewide constitutional post after the inaugurals in Sacramento are held next week.

And no doubt about it, California is in desperate financial straits. The \$21 billion deficit that Governor Gray Davis was speak ing about only a few weeks ago has suddenly risen to \$34.8 bil-lion. I mean, what the hell hap-pened in three weeks? One legis-lator I know said that he thinks the true deficit is bad – really bad – but is actually somewhere in between the \$21 and \$34 billion mark. At least we can't accuse the governor of sugarcoating the issue for us, and those people we send to Sacramento to do the job have their work cut out for them - big time. But then again, who better than the likes of **John Burton**, Mark Leno, and Leland Yee to figure it all out - right? They're

his support and signing of Vermont's historic civil unions legislation. The outspoken, almost

maverick Dean has been compared to Senator John McCain (R-Arizona). Although McCain failed in his 2000 bid for the Republican

nomination, he had a great impact

on his party's direction and its ac-ceptance of his controversial cam-paign finance reform proposals. Dean is controversial in ways that make him appealing to voters

on the left. Among the proposals of this physician-turned-politician is a plan for universal health

care, beginning with children under 18; he accomplished an ex-pansion of health coverage for children in his tiny state. Health

care weighs heavily on many vot-

ers' minds - with millions of

underinsured, it's no surprise that

good guys.

And back in D.C., with the Republican takeover of the U.S. Senate, Dianne Feinstein will immediately lose the chairmanship of a Judiciary Committee panel on ter-rorism and technology, but ex-pects to stay on the important Senate Energy Committee, a seat she picked up last year when De-mocrats took control, as well as her seat on the important Appro-priations Committee that directs federal funding. Boxer will no longer chair a Foreign Relations Committee panel on terrorism, but will remain as the ranking mi-nority member of the committee, as well as sit on the important Senate Environment and Public

State GOP insiders say that if Arnold Schwarzenegger really wants the 2006 Republican guber-natorial nomination, the film star

is all but guaranteed to get it.

Meanwhile, after his startling close re-election win, Governor Gray Davis was telling reporters recently that he knows he's got some repair work to do. With nearly a quarter million of the residents that voted last November choosing not to vote at all in the race for governor, and Davis hav

ing received 1.7 million fewer votes than he received in 1998, voters don't really like the gover-nor and he knows it. Davis: "The first four years, I was closeted in Sacramento; now I'm going to spend more time connecting with people, listening to their concerns and asking them to help me be part of the solution." Political consultants agree that the governor needs a political makeover if he expects to win back voters, work with the more liberal Legislature, and leave office in four years with

and feave office in four years with a record he can tout for a possible future run for national office.

And finally, a reader (Steve S.) e-mailed me the following: "Two stories in the December 25 Chronicle spoke volumes about the true nature of the GOP's 'compassionate conservatism.' A pageone story noted that congression-al Republicans are opposed to the al Republicans are opposed to the Democrats' plan to extend unemployment benefits for 13 weeks at a cost of \$5 billion, calling it too expensive. Instead, they favor a more limited five-week extension costing only \$1 billion. Meanwhile, the Bush White House is drafting a plan to cut taxes on stock dividends by 50 percent. This tax break, which would mainly benefit the wealthiest taxpayers, would cost \$10 billion. payers, would cost \$10 billion This Christmas season, Republi cans are saying 'humbug' to the long-term unemployed while displaying lots of compassion for the wealthy conservatives who bankroll the GOP. And they stand revealed as the party of economic policies that are both fiscally and

And how was your week? ▼



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Backseat boys

by Jane Warner

uboce at Woodward, Decem ber 26, 11:45 p.m.: A cabby picked up two men on the corner of 17th and Mission. As they got into the cab he asked where they wanted to go. "Take us to New York," one of the men de-manded, and then stuck the

the cab driver's neck.
The driver could tell
the men had been
drinking heavily and told them to get out.
"No," the other man yelled, then punched the driver in the head. Fear-ing for his life, the **Punishment**

ing for his life, the cabby began driving, hoping to pass a police car. As he neared Duboce Street, the two men began to argue with each other and then got into a fist fight. The cabby spotted a police car, jumped out, and then pointed to the two men fighting in the back seat of his cab. The men were still throwing punches when an officer seat of his cab. The men were still throwing punches when an officer pounded on the window and ordered them to get out. "Fuck off!" one of the men responded. "Why don't you mind your own business?" The two men were forcibly removed from the cab and taken to Mission Station. The suspects. to Mission Station. The suspects, ages 31 and 35, were booked for aggravated assault, resisting arrest, and public intoxication

Friendly Spirits, 572 Castro, December 28, 8:28 p.m.: A passing motorist observed a man acting suspicious in front of the liquor store, hiding behind parked cars. Through the storefront window, the motorist observed the clerk walls to the rear of the store Sud. walk to the rear of the store. Sud-denly the suspicious man ran into the liquor store, grabbed two bot-tles of wine, and ran back out, sticking the bottles into his waistband as he ran toward 18th Street. The motorist called 911 on his cell phone and followed the suspect down into the underground Muni station at Harvey Milk Plaza. Fearing the suspect would board a

train the motorist confronted the man and said, "I saw what you did. The cops are on their way." The suspect acted surprised and then bolted for the train as it pulled into the platform. The motorist grabbed the suspect in a bear hug and a struggle ensued. Another man jumped in and helped sub-

man jumped in and helped subdue the suspect. "You can't hold
me. I didn't do anything," the
suspect screamed. Police
soon arrived and two
bottles of wine were
found inside the suspect's jacket along
with a class pipe and a with a glass pipe and a hypodermic needle. A computer check revealed he had a warrant for \$20,000. The 43-

year-old suspect was taken to Mission Station and booked for the violations.

Cruise control

Collingwood and 19th, December 21, 6:30 a.m.: A car pulled up alongside a man walking on Hartford near 19th. "Get in," the driver aid through the window. The man recognized the driver as someone he had met a week before at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, and he was surprised ation Center, and he was surprised to see him driving a car. Since it was raining, however, he got in and told his acquaintance to drive to Collingwood Park where they could "party." After a few blocks, a police car suddenly appeared behind the car with its lights flashing. The driver pulled over and the police ordered the two out of the car at gun point. The driver was arrested for allegedly stealing the vehicle, but he denied the charges, saying he had a spat with his lover but only "borrowed" the car "for a while." The 39-year-old driver was brought to Mission Station where he was booked for vehicle theft, parole violation, driving without a license, and not ving without a license, and not wearing a seat belt. The passenger was released after it was deter-

The Gap, 1975 Market Street, December 26, 4 p.m.: A woman,

who had her young son with her, was suspected of returning stolen merchandise as she exchanged nine pairs of the same women's underwear. As is store policy, the clerk asked the woman for her identifi-cation. The woman reluctantly turned it over, telling the clerk, "Hurry the fuck up." As the exchange was being made, the toddler accidentally knocked over a plastic bettle of lotion. Expected, the bottle of lotion. Enraged, the woman grabbed a leather belt off a

display rack and struck the toddler three or four times with the belt as he sat on the floor. A customer inhe sat on the floor. A customer in-tervened threatening to call the po-lice. "I don't give a fuck if you call the cops, he's my kid," the woman screamed. The toddler, who reportedly did not cry and was wearing clothing that concealed any injures he may have had, got up and put his arms around his mother. "See, it works," the woman screamed, then left the store with the boy and

walked in an unknown direction. warked in an unknown direction.
The clerk called Child Protective
Services and reported the incident,
giving the investigator the information from the woman's identification card. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 559-9955.

Community groups launch African American AIDS campaign

by Zak Szymanski

ot all men who have sex with men are gay or bisex-ual identified. And as recent reports have revealed, HIV prevention often leaves out a large percentage of people who are at risk, particularly people of color who reject what is thought of as the "gay male community."

A new advertising campaign by Promotions West and Community Education Group seeks to reach African Americans left out by tra-ditional images and messages. Using the community-created character, "Ms. Ellie," the advertising campaign features an older African American woman who appears on bus shelters, inside Muni cars, and in print media to express

concern for her community.
"Are you Tippin?" Ms. Ellie asks with a knowing glance, then asks with a knowing glance, then proceeds to encourage the men she addresses to use protection and to get tested. "Tippin" is defined as a man who lives a heterosexual lifestyle and engages in sex with other men, but does not identify as, and/or is not gay.

Ms. Fille will also appear with

Ms. Ellie will also appear with the banner message, "AIDS is all of our business," to drive home the point that the disease is dispro-portionately affecting her community, regardless of sexual orientation or identity.

entation or identity.

The campaign was developed by working with 18 community-based groups, including Positive Direction, a Bayview-Hunters Point project, the Mission-neighborhood organization Sage, and

the Tenderloin's Oshun Center. Its

the Tenderloin's Oshun Center. Its focus includes an emphasis on the community as a whole, rather than specific sexual behaviors.

"We are happy to get this campaign on the streets," said Toni Young, executive director of Community Education Group. "With the rising rate of HIV in our community, there should be many campaigns on the streets targeting various segments of the African American community."

African Americans have the most HIV cases of any other group in San Francisco. Additionally, noted the campaign, 46 per-

ally, noted the campaign, 46 per-cent of all women with AIDS in San Francisco are African Ameri-

meet Ms. Ellie, visit www.communityeducationgroup.org. ▼

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CITY COLLEGE'S CASTRO/VALENCIA CAMPUS SPRING 2003 Space is still available in many Spring Semester 2003 credit and noncredit courses starting Tuesday, January 14th at City College of San Francisco's Castro/Valencia Campus. Listed below is just a sampling of day, evening and weekend classes offered at 1220 Noe St. and 1800 Market St. Credit courses are only \$11 per unit for all California residents. Noncredit courses are FREE!

SAMPLING OF SPRING 2003 CREDIT COURSES

Course Title	CRN#	Days	Times	Location/Room
Computer Applic. Word/Excel	35460	W	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1800 Market St. 306
Cosmic Evolution	30615	М	6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 236
Gay Male Relationships	35001		6:30-9:45 P.M.	1800 Market St. 304
German (Elem., Contin.)	30975	T	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 306
German (Practical)	30981	W	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 205
German (Practical, Contin.)	33632	M	6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 205
German (Conversational, Interm.)	35256	M	6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 205
Homosexuality in Recent Cinema	34450	M	6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 201
Italian (Interm.)	35817	Th	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 203
Issues in Lesbian Relationships	35964	W	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 201
Journalism Feature Writing	35812	M	6:30-9:45 P.M.	1800 Market St. 306
Journalism News Writing	35449	Th	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1800 Market St. 306
Lesbian/Gay Culture and Society	30404	Th	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 110
Lesbians/Gays American Culture	35414	W	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 110
Lesbians/Gays American History	34580	W	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 108
Life Planning	34302	M	6:30-9:00 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 212
Photography for the Enthusiast	35478	S	9:30-11:30 A.M.	1220 Noe St. 236
Psychology of Sex Differences	31906		6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 212
Russian (Conversational, Adv.)	35824		6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 306
Russian (Elementary)	31039		6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 12
Russian (Elem., Contin.)	33186		6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 12
Russian (Elem. for Bilingual)	31045		6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 12
Russian (Elem. for Bilingual)	33191	,	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 12
Spanish Literature (Intro.)	35236		6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 301
Sociology (Intro.)	32120		6:30-9:30 P.M.	1800 Market St. 304
Solar System	36099		10:30-Noon	1800 Market St. 306
Woman and Film	34395	T	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 110
Women and Mass Media	35327		6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 108
Women's Health	33428	Th	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1800 Market St. 304
Women's Health Issues (Adv.)	35222	W	6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe St. 203

SAMPLING OF SPRING 2003 FREE NONCREDIT COURSES

American Sign Language I

6:30-9:30 P.M

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Holiday cheer



ongtime partners Patrick Dickey, left, and Francis Nicolai were just two of the many people who attended the AIDS Emergency Fund's annual PWA Christmas Eve dinner, held at the Veterans Building. AEF served 1,200 meals that day and guests were treated to entertainment on two stages and visits with Santa, along with the holiday meals.

News in 2002

■ page 1

get a chance to audition. Station officials would not comment on specifics of the complaint.

Members of the Eureka Valley Promotion Association held the first "Castro Bubble Bath" – a neighborhood cleanup event.



Sir Ian McKellen

The San Francisco LGBT Pride Committee announced that famed actor **Sir lan McKellen** would be the celebrity grand marshal for the 2002 Pride Parade.

The Reverend Robert Cromey, a longtime friend of the LGBT community, retired from Trinity Episcopal Church, where he had been rector for 20 years. Cromey was part of a group of religious leaders who founded the Council for Religion and the Homosexual in

Transgender activist **Theresa Sparks** was elected co-chair of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, marking the first time a



Hundreds of people attended the opening of the LGBT Community Center.

transgender person served in that position.

The rival Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club elected lesbian artist and activist **Debra Walker** as its president, marking the first time in years that a woman served in that position.

March

Bill Beardemphl, a leader in the fight for gay rights, died February 13 after battling cancer. He was 75. Mr. Beardemphl served as founding president of the Society for Individual Rights in 1964 and in 1974 co-founded and published the Sentinel, a San Francisco gay newspaper.

After nine years of planning, countless delays, and millions of dollars raised, the San Francisco LGBT Community Center – housed inside the Charles M. Holmes Campus of the Center – opened its doors on Sunday,

March 3. Hundreds of people attended the event. "For those who doubted us, we finally did it," said **Pat Marte**l, president of the center's board of directors.

Earl Baldock, an AIDS survivor for 17 years and a longtime member of ACT UP/East Bay, died February 11 at the age of 61. In 1990 Mr. Baldock co-founded the Berkeley Needle Exchange.

Openly gay San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno won the Democratic primary nomination for the 13th Assembly District after a bruising campaign against fellow gay exSupe Harry Britt. In the 27th Assembly District (Boulder Creek), John Laird, the openly gay former mayor of Santa Cruz, won the Democratic primary nomination. The victories make it virtually assured that two gay men will be elected to the state Assembly in November.

Talk show host **Rosie O'Donnell** finally came out of the closet in a

much-hyped March 14 television interview on ABC's Primetime show. Locally, gay family advocates were generally pleased with O'-Donnell's interview, though some cringed when she told interviewer Diane Sawyer that she hoped her kids would grow up straight.

The LGBT Community Center board of directors announced March 25 that it had hired **Brian Cheu** as its first executive director. Cheu formally was head of the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center.

Forty-four same-sex couples took part in the city's annual domestic partner ceremony in City Hall on March 21.

April

Openly gay and HIV-positive former San Francisco Health Commissioner Ron Hill faced legal trouble when a Superior Court commissioner ordered him to pay \$5 million to a recent lover, Thomas Lister, for allegedly infecting him with HIV. Hill resigned from the commission in October 2000 when he was arrested for allegedly writing bad checks.

Employees of Community United Against Violence, Community

May

Joao Carlos deSales, a former researcher for the San Francisco Department of Public Health, was reprimanded by federal officials after an investigation found he had falisfied data in a national study of safe sex counseling. Dr. Susan Buchbinder, director of HIV research for DPH, said such an incident had not happened before.

In the wake of the priest sex abuse scandal rocking the Catholic Church, gay Catholics demanded inclusion in the church's process for dealing with the crisis.

After nearly four years, Sonoma County Sheriff's deputies arrested **Zachariah Judson Rutledge** for the October 1998 double-murder of **Horst "Hans" Grahlmann** and **Jason Aaron Blore** in Monte Rio.

Out lesbian city Treasurer Susan Leal, gay Chinese Hawaiian activist Hoover Lee, and transgender artists and activists Christopher Lee and Shawna Virago were named as grand marshals for the 2002 Pride Parade.

The 19th AIDS Candlelight Vigil was held on May 19; about 300 people participated.



Medical pot club CHAMP closed its doors in May.

Thrift, and the Women's Building discovered their buildings had been vandalized with anti-Arab and other hate messages.

Vermont Governor Howard Dean came to San Francisco to test the waters for a possible presidential run, and ran into medical marijuana activists in City Hall who demanded he support controversial legislation in his state dealing with medicinal cannabis.

Lesbian activist **Kate Raphael** went to a Palestinian refugee camp to take a stand against the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land.

Gay AIDS advocate **Steve Gibson** left the Stop AIDS Project to head a developing gay men's health center in the Castro.

The San Francisco chapter of the Names Quilt Project announced it would close its doors May 31.

A memorial service was held for **Barhara Cameron**, who died in February at the age of 47. Ms. Cameron founded Gay American Indians in San Francisco in 1975, and was the main organizer for the Pride Parade from 1980–1985.

Dolores Street Community Services marked its 20th anniversary. The Mission District social service agency operates programs for the working poor and people living with AIDS.

A memorial was held in April for former Emperor IX **Bobby Lee Pace**, who died March 6 after a long battle with diabetes.

Cannabis Helping Alleviate Medical Problems – **CHAMP** – closed its doors May 4 following a federal judge's unfavorable ruling in a case concerning similar medical pot clubs.

Out lesbian **Connie O'Connor** was promoted to captain by San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey.

Bob Rybicki, executive director of Shanti, announced his resigna-

Former city resident **David Tseng** was tapped as executive director for the national office of Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. He is the first openly gay man and first person of color to head the organization.

June

The predominantly gay synagogue in San Francisco, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, celebrated its 25th anniversary.

The Transgender Law Center got off the ground when it received a \$90,000 grant from the Echoing Green Foundation and a \$20,000 grant from the Yale Public Interest Initiative. The group does advocacy work and was formally under the auspices of the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

Openly gay San Francisco Police Officer Jon C. Cook, 38, was killed on June 12. Cook died from injuries sustained in a collision involving two marked police cars at 17th and Dolores streets. The officers had been in pursuit of a stabbing suspect. Cook was the first





Officer Jon C. Cook died in June.

out gay officer killed in the line of

Out lesbian Jean Harris, former executive director of the California Alliance for Pride and Equality, announced she will be aiding Vermont Governor Howard Dean in his presidential campaign.

Geoff Kors, an attorney and longtime gay activist, was named interim director of CAPE. He would later become the permanent executive director. Kors was one of the people instrumental in shaping San Francisco's landmark equal benefits ordinance several years ago.

Lesbian **Rehecca Kaplan** was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the AC Transit Board of Directors in the East Bay.

Poet **June Jordan** died at her home in Berkeley on June 14, following a long battle with breast cancer. She was 65.

Graffiti vandals hit the National AIDS Memorial Grove just before

Parishioners at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in the Castro said on June 22 goodbye to Father **Zachary Shore**. Shore became pastor at the Church of the Visitación in San Francisco.

San Francisco hosted its 32nd annual LGBT Pride Parade and festival June 29-30. Though attendance figures varied, Pride Executive Director Teddy Witherington estimated attendance was "about the same" as the 2001 event, about 1 million people.

July

California began reporting new cases of HIV infection in hopes of better tracking the spread of the virus and to increase services to those demographic groups that are at greatest risk. The system uses a code based on the patient's Social Security number, their gender, and date of birth.

The XIV International AIDS Conference opened in Barcelona, Spain. Many Bay Area AIDS activists and advocates participated in the event, a highlight of which was the "zapping" of U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson during his expect.

Former San Francisco AIDS physician **Julie Gerberding** was named to be the next director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Marvin S. Shaw, a longtime freelance reporter for the *Bay Area Reporter* died June 2 after a sudden illness. He was 79.

Out lesbian Rebecca Prozan was named to the San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission by Mayor Willie Brown. Prozan had been the LGBT liaison to Brown until she resigned to attend law school.

Teresita la Campesina, a well-known ranchera singer who gave visibility to San Francisco's gay Latino community, died July 12 of liver disease. She was 61.

In a stunning decision, the California Supreme Court on July 18 ruled that patients who can show they are using marijuana for medical reasons have limited immunity from criminal prosecution. The decision was unanimous.

Gay pioneer **Bill Plath** died July 9 at the age of 77. Mr. Plath was a lifelong activist who helped found the Tavern Guild and the Society for Individual Rights. He was also an active member of the Council on Religion and Homosexuality, the organization that had a New Year's ball raided by San Francisco police years before the Stonewall riots.

August

Tragedy struck July 28 when San Francisco lesbian **Desiree Galena**, 28, was killed by a hit-and-run driver as she was driving a motorcycle at the intersection of 18th and Dolores streets. Her passenger, **Jacquie Smith**, 26, survived. The women were hit by a stolen car allegedly occupied by two juvenile males. Ms. Galena was survived by her partner, **Cheryl Kuzara**.

A new political group, Plan C, hosted its first candidates' forum and promptly excluded several candidates for supervisor, including three LGBT candidates running in District 8. Plan C chair **Mike Sullivan** later apologized.

San Francisco Frontiers, an LGBT newsmagazine published by Mercury Capital, ended its run on August 8. The paper maintains its Los Angeles edition. The paper's publisher blamed the soft economy and declining advertising revenue for the closure of the San Francisco office.

Gay political consultant Robert Barnes died of AIDS-related complications on August 9. He was 42. Mr. Barnes helped to elect numerous gay and lesbian candidates and was co-founder of the political consulting firm Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauter and Partners. He was survived by his partner, Carlos Molina.

San Francisco legend **George Banda**, often called the most gayfriendly straight man, died suddenly August 6 at the age of 79. He
was active in the Tavern Guild and
served on the board of Community Thrift.

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission voted August 15 to name the gymnasium at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center in the Castro after gay September 11 hero **Mark Bingham**.

Derek Henkle, a young gay man, won a \$450,000 settlement from the Washoe County School District in Reno, Nevada. Henkle sued the district after enduring years of anti-gay harassment and violence. School district officials said they were ready to move on.

Philip Whalen, a legend of the Beat era and well-known figure in the Castro who served as abbot of the Hartford Street Zen Center, died June 26 at the age of 78. A memorial was held in August.

September

LGBT Bay Area residents joined with the rest of the country in marking the first anniversary of the Sentember 11 terrorist attacks.

An investigation by the *Bay Area* Reporter revealed that several area

stores sell lubricant containing the spermicide nonoxynol-9. Studies show that N-9 can significantly increase the risk of HIV infection. As a result of the story, several stores pulled products containing N-9 from their shelves.

McKinnon befriended Ober at the Pendulum bar in the Castro. Authorities discovered Ober's body in his home.

October

In the midst of a tough re-election



Governor Gray Davis slipped in the back door at the LGBT center.

Oakland lesbians held their first Dyke March as part of East Bay Pride festivities.

The federal Drug Enforcement Administration raided the Wo/Men's Alliance for Medical Marijuana on September 5. Authorities seized medical marijuana from the Santa Cruz-based club run by Valerie and Mike Corral. On September 17 the club gave away medical pot with the encouragement of the mayor and other officials. That event drew national media attention to the medical pot controversy.

The B.A.R. announced it would begin publishing announcements from local same-sex couples who have had a public domestic partner ceremony.

Film star, comedian, singer, and writer **Michael Greer** died September 14 in Southern California after a battle with emphysema. He was 59.

San Francisco Police arrested James McKinnon in connection with the grisly murder of 56-year-old Gary Lee Oher. Police said

campaign, Governor **Gray Davis** held a fundraiser at the LGBT Community Center; he slipped in the back door to avoid protesters.

In a huge victory for activists, all lubricant manufacturers agreed to stop making lube with the spermicide nonoxynol-9. Condoms containing N-9, however, live on.

Kar Yin Tham became the executive director of the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center.

Longtime Radical Faerie and gay activist **Joey Cain** was elected president of the board of directors for the San Francisco Pride Parade and Celebration Committee.

Jihad Abdul-Alim Akbar, a gay man, was fatally shot by police October 8 outside the Bagdad Cafe in the Castro. Police said they were forced to shoot Akbar, 28, after he lunged at them with two large butcher knives. Akbar's partner, Tim Silard, and his friends questioned the use of deadly force in the incident. Akbar had an ongoing struggle with speed and had been in treatment programs.



Harry Hay died in October

Gay pioneer **Harry Hay** died October 24 at his San Francisco home at the age of 90. Mr. Hay was widely recognized as the leader of the modern gay rights movement.

The California Highway Patrol paid \$130,000 to an Oakland lesbian couple to settle claims of excessive force, assault, and sexual orientation discrimination brought by the women against one of its officers. The women — Wendy Bauman and Sharon Krieger — were "thrilled" with the resolution of the case.

November

Halloween in the Castro turned into one of the most violent on record. Numerous reports of gaybashings and other altercations were received and there were several stabbings during the night-time celebration that was attended by an estimated 300,000 people. City police, merchants, and local officials vowed to begin planning early for next year's event.

Gay Games VI got started in Sydney, Australia amid reports of budget deficits and sparse crowds at some sporting events. Many Bay Area LGBT athletes took part in the weeklong event.

San Francisco gay resident Sal Rinauro, 44, was killed in a traffic accident at Market and Sanchez streets. He was survived by his partner, James Crow.

page 19 >

Men of

Color

r Prograr



UCSF PositiveHealth Practice is welcoming patients to a new program designed to provide culturally sensitive services for African American men and other men of color living with HIV and AIDS.

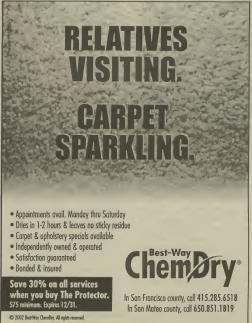
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2002: A year of political normalization

Father Mychal Judge died Sept. 11

collect a \$250,000 federal death

benefit. It was named after the gay priest killed in the September 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. It is believed to be the first

time that the survivor of a gay partnership has become eligible to receive a federal benefit.

New leaders at the top of the National Institutes of Health, the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug

Administration have impressed members of the community as being extremely competent and prepared to deal with the commu-nity's concerns in a fair manner.

But administration support for abstinence-only sex education, the disappearance of information on condoms at the CDC Web site, and audits of AIDS organizations has fueled fears that so in a condoms.

has fueled fears that social conserratives are calling the shots on

The Pentagon's anti-gay policy known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" remains all too much in effect.

The latest round of expulsions of Arabic speakers – in light of the military's need for the likely war in Iraq and in the fight against ter rorism – has growing numbers of Americans saying that the policy just does not help to promote our

No pro-gay legislation passed the U.S. Congress, there wasn't even a vote on hate crimes or em-ployment legislation, despite a

pledge by outgoing Senate Major-ity Leader Tom Daschle (D-South Dakota) to hold them. He did try

a parliamentary maneuver in June to bring up the former, but his

to bring up the former, but his tactics so incensed Republicans that even co-sponsors said no to the procedural vote.

Gridlock on 11 of 13 appropriations bills meant no opportunity to attach the measures there as amendments. The good news was that it also denied social conservatives a similar opportunity with

atives a similar opportunity with their anti-gay amendments. Perhaps that was only deferred until

haps that was only deferred until January when Congress returns to wrap up the spending bills. Gay political nemesis Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina) retired from the Senate, while ally Paul Wellstone (D-Minnesota) died in a plane crash in October. Anti-gay

a plane crash in October. Anti-gay Tom DeLay (R-Texas) advances to majority leader in the House, but it will be little change from the retiring Dick Armey (R-Texas), he of the "Barney Fag" comments.

Another homophobe who will not be missed is the defeated Representative Bob Barr (R-Georgia). In the politics-as-strange-bedfellows category, Barr has been hired to lobby Congress by Anthony Romero, the openly gay executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Liberties Union.
Nancy Pelosi (D-California)

By Bob Roehr

he year saw many small steps and consolidation of social and legal gains for the LGBT community across the country.

While there were disappointments, there were no serious setbacks.

Wrapping up the year was an early Christmas present, when, on December 17, the New York State Legislature passed a gay rights bill. It ended a 30-year struggle to pass the measure and makes New York the 13th state to offer such basic protections to its citizens.

President George Bush contin-ued to appoint modest numbers of openly gay people to positions within the administration and to groups such as the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. The wisory council on HIV/AIDS. The most visible appointee, Scott Evertz, was shuffled out of the "AIDS czar" office, replaced by an-other openly gay man, Joe O'Neill, a physician who's an acknowledged

a physician who san acknowledged expert of federal AIDS programs. Mary Matalin is perhaps the gay community's most influential ally within the White House. Unfortunately, she announced that she is stepping down from her position as special assistant to Vice President

special assistant to vice President Dick Cheney at the end of the year. In June, the president signed the Mychal Judge Act, making it easier for beneficiaries of public safety of-ficers killed in the line of duty to

steps up to lead the Democratic minority in the House. The San Francisco congresswoman has been a strong supporter of gay and AIDS issues.

An anti-gay marriage amendment to the U.S. Constitution was introduced in May but has garintroduced in May but has garnered few supporters. Even the arch conservative Washington Times editorialized against it. It's chief sponsor was a Democrat who was defeated for re-election and it is unclear whether the amendment will even be reintroduced.

will even be reintroduced.

The future of gay civil unions is brightening. The furor is dying down in Vermont, along with electoral support for social conservatives, and it appears that there will be no attempt to roll back the measure. Legislators in three southern New England states are seriously considering. similar proposals and even broad-er marriage options.

David Cicilline was elected mayor of Providence, Rhode Is-

land. It is the largest city and the first state capital to be led by an openly gay or lesbian person. Election day saw incremental gains elsewhere and defeat of anti-gay initiatives other than those deal-ing with marriage. Internationally, openly gay polit-ical leaders made headlines as vic-



Dutch leader Pim Fortuyn was

tims. Dutch party leader Pim For-tuyn was shot to death in May just utyli was shot to dead in May Just nine days before is party won an upset victory in national elections. Bertrand Delanoe, the mayor of Paris, suffered serious knife wounds to the abdomen during an assault in

October; he has recovered. Many Americans feared a dete rioration of personal rights and liberties in the post-9/11 environ-ment. Generally, the courts have not adopted that mindset. They have supported the right to coun-sel and have struck down attempts

set and nave struck down attempts at censorship on the Internet. Another sodomy law bit the dust in July when the Arkansas Supreme Court declared that law an unconstitutional violation of an unconstitutional violation of the state's right to privacy. Courts in Louisiana and Texas have been more recalcitrant, but the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in De-cember to hear the appeal of the Texas case leaves observers opti-mistic that it will strike down some or all of the remaining state sodomy statutes.

some or all of the remaining state sodomy statutes.

Disgust with the way the Catholic bishops have handled the controversy over priests' abuse of children has greatly undermined their credibility, including efforts to shift the blame to easy priests. to shift the blame to gay priests. Rumblings are coming out of the Vatican about purging priests who are believed to be gay. But the rank and file in the pews seems to want none of it.



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Our 12th Year of Community Service

Argentina AIDS agencies blossom, but face fiscal hurdles

by Ed Walsh

Editor's note: Buenos Aires became the first Latin American city to approve gay "civil unions' last month. Despite that note of optimism, activists fighting homo-phobia and AIDS in Argentina say the nation is woefully behind in its the nation is woeffully befind in its AIDS education and prevention efforts and that AIDS, also known there as the Pink Pest, is often-times thought of a disease of an-other country, and a disease of other people

or 19-year-old Alejandro Freyre, it was a moment frozen in time. It was in May 1989. The setting was a hospital in his hometown,

Buenos Aires, Argentina.

What would happen that day would launch him on a path to be one of the most prominent foot soldiers in the battle against AIDS in Latin America and the face of AIDS in Argentina.

AIDS in Argentina.

After four months of waiting to get tested for HIV and another month waiting for the results, the time had finally come on that fall day. For moral support, as he waited for the results, he was sur-rounded by his father and by his boyfriend, Fernando. A doctor then told the group that Freyre had AIDS.

"They didn't say back then that you were HIV-positive, they just said that you have AIDS," Freyre told the *Bay Area Reporter* last month in his first interview with

"I just sunk in that moment — that I had AIDS," he recalled. "I felt very, very sad. I didn't feel happy for a very long time after that."

happy for a very long time after that."

But for what seemed like the end of the road for Freyre that day would yield a new beginning the following morning.

"That night I closed my eyes, I felt depressed only that night. But I when I woke up the next morning, I felt hungry. I felt alive."

When he sat down at the breakfast table, his family was waiting for him. Although they felt that they needed his support even more. That revelation would be a road map for the rest of his life.

"The way I bought strength for myself was to build strength for others," explained Freyre.

At that time, there was just one support group for people living with HIV in Argentina. Freyre became involved in that group and eventually coordinated its meetings.

ings.
In 1995, he was admitted to a hospital suffering from AIDS-re-lated illnesses and his doctor told him he would not survive. Instead of accepting that prognosis, Freyre said he turned the focus away from himself and toward others who were in a similar position.

He accepted an invitation to appear on a television talk show and after that, invitations came in and after that, invitations came in from several other influential television talk and news programs. Since his first television appearance, Freyre said that his telephone "exploded" with calls of support and from people who were also living with AIDS. Up until that time, Freyre explained, AIDS had no face in Argentina.

Freyre recalled that when he



AIDS activist Alejandro Freyre

was first diagnosed as being HIV-positive, there was virtually no ed-ucation about AIDS because it was thought of as "a disease of another country." He noted that he was er country." He noted that he was the first person in his circle of gay male friends who was diagnosed as being HIV-positive but he knew he was the tip of the iceberg.

"I looked at my friends, and I know I fucked with them, and they were all fucking with each other" he said

other," he said.

Besides being thought of as a disease from somewhere else, Freyre explained that AIDS was looked upon as a disease of gay men and called by many the Peste Rosa, or Pink Pest. Freyre noted that he lost his contract for work with an inventor of the Pester Rosa. with an insurance company after it became known that he was HIV-positive. His dentist also refused to treat him.

New foundation

As a result of his activism and As a result of his activism and his experience helping others with HIV and AIDS, Freyre officially began his own foundation in 1996, called the *Fundacion Buenos Aires SIDA*, or the Buenos Aires AIDS Foundation. The foundation employs a staff of eight or nine full-time employees and more than 30 volunteers. It operates out of Freyre's apartment in a poor, red-light section of Buenos Aires, known for being frequent-ed by "transvesti" prostitutes, who have become an important part of the foundation's outreach work.

The foundation hosts regular outreaches to discos frequented by young people and to schools, with the emphasis on peer to peer counseling. It also distributes free condoms, which can sell for just under a dollar per condom, a sig-nificant sum for many. With its recent economic troubles, the median annual income in Argentina \$8,000 to \$2,500. Half of Argenti-na's 37 million people live under the poverty level of \$2 per day. Freyre feels fortunate to have

strong support from his family. He came out when he was 16. His boyfriend, Fernando, also tested positive but his family was not supportive. Fernando's family didsupportive. Fernando's family did-n't know he was gay until they learned he was HIV-positive. Al-though they are no longer boyfriends, Freyre said he and Fernando have remained good friends. Freyre declined to provide Fernando's last name but noted that Fernando donated a computthat remando donated a computer to his foundation, a huge donation for the scrappy organization. Freyre plans to "marry" his current partner, Juan, in a civil ceremony in March.

Freyre's organization gets much of its funding from a grant from the German government but that funding source is due to run out in June 2003. He hopes he will be able to get enough alternative funding to keep the foundation's doors open.

Struggling agency

Another sister AIDS founda-tion in Argentina, the Nexo Group, is also struggling to stay afloat. Its president, Dr. Sergio Maulen, told the B.A.R. that this year it had to move to a smaller office and temporarily cease the publication of its gay magazine, NX. Maulen hopes to relaunch NX soon. The proceeds from the sales of the magazine supported



Dr. Sergio Maulen

much of its health services. The magazine continues to be pub-lished online at www.nexo.org. Maulen has administered HIV

Maulen has administered HIV tests from his office since March 2000, a huge breakthrough from the bureaucratic user-unfriendly public hospitals that also administer the test. Of the mostly gay men who get tested at Nexo, about 13 percent test positive for HIV, Maulen said.

Nexo also runs a hotline staffed by health professionals and volun-teers. Like the Buenos Aires AIDS Foundation, Nexo targets much of its work toward prevention. Maulen explained that although Mauten explained that atthough
the government of Argentina
guarantees AIDS medication and
treatment through its public hospitals, it is far behind the United
States and other countries in education and prevention.

According to an estimate by
UNAIDS and the World Health
Creanization 130,000, people

Organization, 130,000 people were infected with HIV in Argentina in 2001. According to Foundation Huesped, another major AIDS organization in Argentina in Argent gentina, children under 12 made up a little over 7 percent of all HIV

cases in the country, the highest rate in Latin America. The children got the disease during pregnancy, delivery, or through breast feeding, according to the foundation. UNAIDS/WHO estimates about 3,000 children under 15 are

about 3,000 children under 15 are HIV-positive, or about a third of Foundation Huesped's estimate. Of those who test positive for HIV in Argentina, about 40 per-cent report that they became in-fected through heterosexual con-tact, 28 percent through IV drug use, and 23 percent through gay or bisexual contact. Despite a recent billboard

Despite a recent billboard campaign about AIDS that the Argentine government initiated last month, Maulen said there is still a great deal of denial about AIDS in

Argentina.

"It's easy for this society to think this is a problem of others," he told the B.A.R.

Maulen noted that the transi-

tional government in Argentina under Peronist President Eduardo Duhalde has neither an AIDS policy nor a prevention policy. He said that a person who was assigned to oversee AIDS programs in the country has no prior history of work on AIDS. \blacktriangledown

Alejandro Freyre and the Buenos Aires AIDS Foundation can be reached at can be reached at buenosaires, sida@hotmail.com, or send mail to 1040 Virrey Ceballos PB.5, (1077) Capital Federal, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel-fax: 011-54-11-4305-8269. Dr. Sergio Maulen 4305-8269. Dr. Sergio Maulei and the Nexo Group can be reached at info@nexo.org, or write Sarmiento 1562 2° F, (C1022AAD) Capital Federal, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Tel: 011-54-11-4374-4484. Both organizations are in need of monetary support and Nexo is asking for donations of unused AIDS medications.

Buenos Aires recognizes gay couples

by Zak Szymanski

o, it's not marriage. It's not even a "civil union" as many have come to know it in the United States. But granting legal status to same-sex couples is still a huge first step for Buenos Aires, which recognized civil unions − giving gay couples certain health benefits and guaranteed hospital visitation rights − with a 29-10 vote in the city legislature on December 13.

Buenos Aires, with a population of 3 million people, is now the first city in Latin America to recognize the rights of gay and lesbian couples. Specifically, the law will mostly benefit partners of those insured by the city, such as teachers, hospital workers, and government workers. It will not grant more extensive rights, such as the right to adopt children.

This is the first law of its kind in the predominately Roman Catholic and conservative Argentina. The law passed after much debate, which included heavy opposition from the church. ▼



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Changing one's gender on a birth certificate is no easy task

by Chris Daley

he following is an occasion-al column compiled by the Transgender Law Project that answers basic legal questions of interest to San Francisco's transgender, intersex, gender-variant, and genderqueer communi-

Q: Last year I went through the process of going to court to get my name changed. Now I want to change the gender on my birth certificate. I called the vital records office in Sacramento and they said that I'd have to go back to court to get another court order. Is that true? Why isn't the name change court order enough?

A: Unfortunately, the court A: Unfortunately, the court order you got last year for your name change is not enough to change the gender marker on your birth certificate. If you want to change the gender marker, you'll need to get a second court order. Once you do this, fill out some paperwork, and pay a fee to the vital records office, you will get a new birth certificate with the correct gender marker. The information contained in your old birth cerCalifornia law (Health and Safety Codes 103425-103445) lays out the procedures you have to follow to get a court order to change the gender marker on your birth certificate. The first requirebirth certificate. The first requirement is that you undergo "surgi-cal treatment for the purpose of altering [your] sexual characteris-tics to those of the opposite sex." If you have any questions about whether the medical treatment you've received meets this stan-dard please contact me at (415) dard, please contact me at (415) 392-6257, ext. 308 or e-mail daley@nclrights.org. The next requirement is that you submit a petition to the court

along with some supporting pa-perwork. The paperwork you need to submit to the court in need to submit to the court in order to get this order is not terribly burdensome, but it can be confusing. The first thing you'll need is a petition to the court. The court does not have any preprinted forms for this procedure like they do for name change petitions. The has a model that you. tions. TLC has a model that you can use to create a petition. Contact me if you'd like to get one.

You then have to attach an affidavit from "a physician docu-

menting the sex change." The affi-davit can come from your surgeon, your primary care physician, or another health care provider. TLC has a model of an appropriate affidavit. If you'd like

appropriate affidavit. If you diske a copy, please contact me. Finally, if you changed your name via court petition, you'll need to submit a certified copy of need to submit a certified copy of your name change order. Just to clarify, you don't need to have changed your name via court petition in order to get a gender marker change court order. While California law allows a person to submit both petitions to the court at the same time, they are two separate proce-

two separate procedures and can be done independently of each other.

To get the gen-

der marker change

der marker change court order, you could go back to the courthouse and file the above paperwork. You'll be charged a filing fee and will be given a date to appear in front of a judge. You won't, however, have to publish your petition like you did when you changed your name.

your name.

Before going back to the courthouse and filing, however, I would strongly recommend that you consider submitting a "supplemental petition" to the judge who issued your name change order. Because California law specifically allows you to file your name change and gender marker change petitions in the same proceeding (Health & Safety Code 103435), a supplemental petition is a way to ask the judge who granted your name change to reis a way to ask the Judge who granted your name change to re-view this petition as well. The judge is under no obligation to re-view your supplemental petition. This means that the judge has every right to return your paper-work and send you back through

the regular court process. Supplemental petitions

◆ page 8

However, TLC has had some success over the past year in help-ing people get gender marker

amended the Constitution to state that 'Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized

Hoyer asks the city attorney to either respond or consider meeting by December 16 to discuss the issue. Due to the holidays, the city

attorney's office asked for an exten-sion and is working on a response.

Chief deputy city attorney
Therese Stewart, who also helped
write the assessor's ruling, said she

expects to have a written response for the board by next week. When contacted by the B.A.R. on Monday, December 30, Stewart would not comment on what the city's

response will be.
"I can't answer that just yet. We

haven't completed our process on this," said Stewart. "I can tell you we disagree with their analysis. We

we disagree with their analysis. we agreed after we submit our response, we will sit down and sort of exchange views."

Stewart said the city does not

plemental petitions. Submitting a supplemental petition is helpful in two ways: (1) you don't have to pay a filing fee, and (2) you don't have to appear in court (however, the judge may request that you come to a meeting in the judge's office). If you want to submit one, you will need to take a couple of additional steps than you would if you were filing

would if you were filing directly in the court-house. First, you'll need to write a letter to the judge requesting that the judge review your supplemental petition. TIC has a tition. TLC has a model letter you

can use in creating

your own. Secondly, you'll need to include the paperwork mentioned above (petition, physician affiabove (petition, physician alli-davit, certified copy of your court order). In addition, it is also a good idea to send the judge a "proposed order." This will make it easier for the judge to execute your request, thus, increasing the likelihood that the judge will ac-cept your petition. TLC also has a reads! "grouped order," that your model "proposed order" that you can use in creating your own.

can use in creating your own.

If the judge agrees to accept your supplemental petition, you'll likely be charged a small fee to get a certified copy of the order. Once you have a gender marker change court order (either through the supplemental petition or regular court process), you'll need to contact the Office of Vital Records (OVR) to change your birth cer-(OVR) to change your birth cer-tificate. OVR has a great publica-tion that walks you through the steps you need to take, "Obtaining a New Birth Certificate After Gender Reassignment." copies of this publication or you can request that one be mailed to you free of charge by calling (916) 557-6076

In short, OVR requires that you submit a VS 24(S) form along with

a certified copy of your court order (and a certified copy of your name change order if you are also changing the name on your birth certificate). You can order a copy of this form by calling OVR at the above number. You will have to pay a fee (approximately \$20) to have a new birth certificate created. You'll receive one certified copy of your certificate at the time you change cerve one certified copy of your certificate at the time you change it. You'll have to pay an extra fee for each additional copy. I should also quickly note that

I should also quickly note that these procedures are only open to people who have a California birth certificate. While a person born in California but residing in another state can get a new birth certificate by submitting a gender marker change court order from the state where they are currently residing, California courts do not have any California courts do not have any explicit authority to issue gender

explicit autionity to issue gender marker change court orders for anyone not born in California.

If you have any questions about how to petition the court for either kind of order or would like our model materials for the supplemental petition, please contact me at (415) 392-6257, ext. 308

or daley@nclrights.org.

The information provided in this column is not intended as a substitute for legal advice. If you have a legal question about your specific circumstances, please contact an attorney or the appropriate government agency.

Transgender Law Center staff members, Dylan Vade and Chris Daley, answer transgender legal questions via phone (415-865-5619) and e-mail (daley@nclrights.org) and at free twice-a-month legal clinics. The center is a fiscally sponsored project of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and receives additional support from the Echoing Green Foundation, Female-to-Male International, and the Yale Public Interest Initiative.

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agree with the tax board counsel's State tax board determination that the assessor made a decision that the state law is unconstitutional. marital relationships.
"On March 8, 2002, in reaction to the statute authorizing the establishment of domestic partners and partnerships, the California voters adopted Proposition 22 that amended the Constitution to state

"That is not accurate. What the assessor did was interpret the spousal exception to encompass domestic partners in order to avoid a constitutional problem that would otherwise occur," said Stewart. "I think they kind of with state laws. Hoyer stated in his letter that domestic partners can choose to hold title to property in joint tenancy so as to avoid reap-

"As it stands at the moment, the ruling clearly violates the tax codes and the Constitution," asserted Cazadd. "I am not waffling on that position at all. What it states in the letter on the law is quite true."

"As it stands at the moment, the ruling clearly violates the tax codes and the Constitution."

missed that; they didn't seem to understand that.

Hoyer was on vacation this week and could not be reached for comment. But Kristine Cazadd, assistant chief counsel for the board, told the B.A.R. that under state law there is no exclusion for domestic partners to the reap-praisal of property and therefore "puts the assessor's ruling in what appears to be violation of the ex-isting statute."

Cazadd said there is a way for domestic partners to avoid having their property reassessed when a partner dies that is in accordance

Despite the strong wording of the letter from Hoyer, Cazadd said the board counsel hopes there is a way to amicably settle the matter

whay to allife any without resorting to legal action.
"Obviously the real objective of the assessor is to provide a mechanism for voiding reappraisal upon death when one domestic partner inherits the prop-erty from another domestic part-ner. If that is the objective, there is a way to accomplish that apart from using the interspousal exclu-sion," said Cazadd. "We are not in a position where we want to go to court tomorrow on this." ▼

STD's?

and treatment services for anyone 12 years of



Holiday present for **PWAs: Standing referrals**

by Zak Szymanski

hen American students learn how a bill becomes a law, the lessons often leave out the crucial after-steps: drafting regulations for implementation.

Which is why some of those who followed the passage of Cali.

Which is why some of those who followed the passage of California's groundbreaking AB2168 more than two years ago – which required HMOs to provide standing referrals to AIDS specialists for people with HIV – may be wondering what happened to the easier healthcare access they were promised.

Wonder no more. AB2168, authored by then-Assemblyman Martin Gallegos (D-Los Angeles) and signed by Governor Gray Davis in September 2000, has fi-nally made it through the regula-tions process. The delay was caused in part, according to re-ports, by a team of healthcare ex-perts trying to craft a definition of what constitutes an AIDS "spe-cialist"

For the purpose of the law, the term specialist has now come to mean any referred professional who meets one of the following four criteria: the person has been credentialed as an HIV specialist by the American Academy of HIV by the American Academy of HIV Medicine; the person has been cer-tified or earned added qualifica-tion in the field of HIV by the American Board of American Specialists; the person is board certified in the field of infectious dis-

number of HIV patients; or the person has a history of HIV/AIDS work that includes a minimum number of HIV training hours and HIV-positive clientele.

The completed regulations were approved by the Office of

Administrative Law the week be-fore Christmas and will go into ef-fect January 16. The law will now be able to fulfill its mission of get-ting more HIV-positive people into specialized care, which has been shown to improve health and save lives.

and save lives.
"HMO patients come to us frequently having suffered from substandard care at the hands of HMOs," Michael Weinstein, president of AIDS Healthcare Foundation, told reporters. "You simply

cannot provide life-saving AIDS treatment without up-to-theminute medical education ... we now look forward to helping edurights under the new regulations, and to working with health plans to ensure they provide the care called for by law."

Gallegos, who is no longer in office, said that the completed regulations are "an important milestone for all Californians living

with HIV/AIDS who are covered by managed care plans. Successful implementation of these regulaimplementation of these regulations governing AB2168 should markedly improve access to – and the quality of – care for people living with HIV/AIDS."

weinstein, whose group was instrumental in the passage of the original legislation, urged all HIV-positive people covered under HMOs to "demand competent care by specialists."

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WTO fails to reach drug patent agreement

by Liz Highleyman

orld Trade Organization negotiators in C negotiators in Geneva failed to meet their deadline last month to reach an agreement to increase access to generic drugs for poor countries.

The proposed agreement would have allowed developing countries that do not have the ability to produce their own low-cost generic drugs to import such medications from other countries.

medications from other countries.
The negotiations were a followup to a declaration adopted at the
November 2001 WTO meeting in
Doha, Qatar, which stated that
member nations can use compulsory licensing to override pharmacutical valents to produce generaceutical patents to produce generic drugs in the case of public health emergencies. That agree-ment, however, did not address the poorest countries, which lack the

capacity for drug production.

The U.S. blocked the latest proposal by insisting that the deal

should apply only to drugs for specific infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and cholera. Developing country representatives wanted the agreement to also cover medications for other illnesses prevalent in poor countries. The U.S. was the only one of more than 144 member nations to oppose the plan.

"If you're going to permit people to import drugs to treat cancer, diabetes, and heart disease, what are you going to do when someone says, 'I want Viagra on the list?" Where do you draw the line?" asked a U.S. trade official. "We decided to draw it at the drugs for the major epidemics

"We decided to draw it at the drugs for the major epidemics plaguing the developing world."

A group of U.S. public health school deans decried the U.S. position in a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick. "While there is no doubt that [HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria] are ravaging developing countries, they cannot be considered the sole public health threats

in poor regions," wrote the deans. In addition, students from over 50 universities, coordinated by the International Trade and Access to Medicines Student Group, sent some 15,000 postcards protesting the U.S. stance.

Despite the failure to reach an

agreement, Zoellick promised that the U.S. would not file complaints with the WTO against poor coun-tries that override U.S. drug com-pany patents to export or import medications for approved diseases
– essentially unilaterally implementing the U.S. position.

"We urge others to join us in the moratorium to help poor

countries get access to emergency life-saving drugs," said Zoellick. Last month's failure may affect developing countries' willingness to compromise on other issues yet to be decided in the current round of WTO negotiations. Representatives will convene again to attempt to reach an agreement on generic drugs before the February 10 WTO General Council meeting. ▼



ISNA selects new executive director

by Liz Highleyman

he Intersex Society of North America announced December 19 that the organization selected Monica Casper, Ph.D., as its new executive direc

Casper is an internationally recognized medical sociologist and biomedical ethicist. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California at San fellow in biomedical ethics at Stanford University. For six years she taught at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Casper is a member of the board of the Institute for Children's Environ-

mental Health and has worked mental Health and has worked with advocacy groups including Breast Cancer Action. She is author of The Making of the Unborn Patient: A Social Anatomy of Fetal Surgery, and editor of the forth-coming Synthetic Planet: Chemical Politics and the Hazards of Modern

Life.
"I will work with the board and with ISNA's growing constituency to advocate for systemic change to end shame, secrecy, and change to end shame, secrecy, and unwanted genital surgeries for all people with intersex conditions," said Casper. "ISNA is poised to offer solutions and create real change with its patient-centered model of care." Casper will take over for founding director Cheryl Chase,

tention to resign by the end of the

year.
"I am very excited about Monica's appointment," said Chase. "Her energy and her expertise in dealing with health care advocates, doctors, and scientists are great assets for the organization."

ISNA also announced that local author and intersex activist Thea Hillman has been promoted to board chair, and that intersex activists David Strachan and Esther Morris Leidolf have joined the board.

ISNA will move its offices from the Bay Area to Seattle, where Casper resides, later this month.

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Resolution # fine

by Jim Provenzano

ne of the most popular New Year's resolutions people make is to get more healthy. Gym memberships regularly get a boost in January, yet few take their workouts through the new year with the dedication of Bay Area medalists in Physique at Gay

Among them were powerful competitors in men's and women's solo, and a popular couple in the pairs category. Winning did not come easy for anyone in this sport, which requires years of dedication and devotion to weightlifting, diet, and even choreography.

Simply Simpson

Bill Simpson took silver in the Open – Men's Short, out of eight

men.
"This was my first Gay Games, and my first competition," he said with pride.

Simpson trains at Gold's in San Francisco. But while there was a Gold's on Oxford Street's gay district, he said he didn't train upon

trict, he said he didn't train upon arrival in Sydney.

"It's not a good idea to train right before a show. About a week out, I stopped, and focused on

posing, aerobics, and abdominals."
And dieting?
"Oh yeah," Simpson said "That was really difficult. It's hard to find the right type of food, just





Bill me: William Simpson

Like many Physique competi-tors, when asked about the subjective judging, Simpson laughed, but preferred not to comment.

Basketball in North Sydney, AquaMania at the Olympic Park, and other sports events filled his free time. He passed on circuit parties until after competition. "I wanted to be focused on what I

was doing."

Not that he doesn't like to party a bit. Patrons of Daddy's bar in the Castro recently enjoyed Simpson's terpsichorean talents as well, when his go-go Santa helped raised funds for a toy drive for

San Francisco's Debra Reabock took silver in the Grand Masters – women's category. Oakland's Charlene Bennett took fourth in Charlene Bennett took fourth in the Masters Women. Many others from California competed, and medaled (see last week's Sports Complex), but one couple particularly embodies the efforts, tribu-



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lations and triumph of Games

Coupled up

Geoffrey Rudy and Sergio Mercado not only competed to-gether, they're boyfriends, too. They won a gold medal in the Pairs Men's Tall category last No-vember in Sydney. But their victo-ry didd's come exists.

y didn't come easily.

Mercado's parents came to
New York from Puerto Rico, but
raised their family in Miami. Rudy
was born and raised in Nova Scotia, and lived in Northern Ouebec

and Toronto.

"I was a very rambunctious kid," said Rudy, "so my grandmother put me into gymnastics lessons at 8 years old, and it caught."

Rudy competed in Canada by age 12 and ranked nationally. He excelled in gymnastics through high school after moving to the U.S., and moved to California in 1992, where he ifornia in 1992, where he competed for four years in Division I gymnastics on a scholarship at San Jose

State University.

His Olympic goals were cut short when Sports Complex he ruptured two discs in his back. Years of pain, hospital visits, and treat-ments yielded little help. He grad-

ually returned to working out after long-term therapy.

After back surgery in 1998,

After back surgery in 1998, Rudy still had severe pain in his body. Tryouts for the 2000 Olympic team was a lost goal. "It was so disappointing to miss that opportunity," Rudy said. "I couldn't even watch the Olympics, having lost a dream that I'd had since I was 9 years old "With his diver replaced but in the said of the said o old." With his discs replaced by ti-tanium steel cages, his recovery was incomplete, and his emotion-al state suffered.

Dismissing anti-depressants and pain pills, Rudy instead enlisted the aide of his friend Nancy Brigham, a bodybuilder, Gay Games Physique competitor, and neuro-muscular therapist. Brigham confronted Rudy with his "roadblock of pain," and sug-gested using the 2002 Games as a

one-year goal. Mercado had just met Rudy at Mercado had just met Rudy at the gym, after living in San Fran-cisco for nine years. An interior and architectural designer for up-scale hotels and restaurants around the world, Mercado has been partners for over a year with Pudy who works in exercise reha-Rudy, who works in exercise rehabilitation at Mountain View's Axis Performance Center.

Rudy said that Brigham told him to "work to achieve a goal. Whether or not you achieve it, you'll find a way to overcome your



Two for won: Geoffrey Rudy, left, and Sergio Mercado

Proposing that his new boyfriend help him compete did-n't come easy for Rudy. "I said, 'Honey, I'm thinking of doing this particular sport, and it's gonna re-quire me to work out for hours each day."

each day.'" Rudy then asked Rudy then asked Mercado to compete with him. "I told him I was fully supportive," said Merca-do. "I said, 'Absolutely. Let's do it."

"I almost fell over when he actually agreed," Rudy laughed.

Backing him up

Then followed a year of difficult training, weight gaining for Rudy, and even a time only months before the Games where

months before the Games where his back pain forced Mercado to consider a substitute partner. Finally, Rudy's breakthrough occurred, where his strength training and some chiropractic sessions eliminated the pain. "After five years, I was able to move without pain, without thinking about it," he said. Like all Physique competitors and other athletes, Mercado said, "Eight weeks out, the preparation took over our lives." A team of three people assisted the couple, including Brigham, trainer Sue Epperson, and Troy Markle, a former national aerobics champion who teaches Step classes at Gold's.

who teaches Step classes at Gold's. "Carbo depletion and loading,

ocarbo depletion and loading, potassium, sodium levels; it was all new to me," said Mercado. Performing before an audience was new, too. Markle dumped their meditative trance tune, replacing it with an energetic R&B song, providing what Rudy calls "our sassy attitude. Troy said, 'We are gonna work your bodies all across that stage until the crowd is screaming on their feet.' The whole routine; that's not us at all We really had to get out of our

Bashful practice runs followed at the expansive aerobics room at Gold's Gym on Brannan Street before an enthusiastic crowd of

gymgoers. Their sexy, flirtatious, and very gymnastic partnering routine wowed friends, and later, the Sydney audience and judges.

"We had to be up on the stage, almost naked, painted in tanning makeup, and not thinking about it," said Rudy.

The naturally-trained pair spoke of the controversial deci-sion by the Sydney Sports committee not to drug-test competi-

"They didn't have the money to do them," said Mercado. "There were people there, obviously on steroids, who came up to me and said, 'You mean to tell me that you've done nothing?' We said no, but they were basically telling us, by making these compents that by making these comments, that they had."

Added Rudy, "We realized that

we were not on an even playing field. In Montreal for 2006, they're going to have make two competi-tions; one natural, one not, or they have to find the finances to do

drug testing."

Despite that controversy, Rudy and Mercado were victorious. With a year of struggle and effort condensed into a few minutes oncondensed into a few minutes on-stage, the pair also did well in in-dividual events. Rudy placed sev-enth in the Novice – Men's Short competition, and Mercado took silver in the Novice – Men's Tall. For scores and results, visit www.Sydney2002.org.au. For pre-vious. Games articles, visit

vious Games articles, www.sportscomplex.org.

Triangulation

A taekwon do tournament will A tackword of tournament will be hosted by Triangle TKD on Saturday, January 11-from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Eureka Valley (Mark Bingham) Recreational Center at 18th and Collingwood (one block west of Castro Street). The tournament is being coordinated by Master Ken Craig (4th dan) and Mister Jim Gardner (2nd dan).

The morning session will consist of traditional forms, creative forms, and demonstration team events. The afternoon session will consist of TMAA Olympic style sparring. Black belts and colored belts of all ranks at least 18 years

belts of all ranks at least 18 years of age (by January 11) are invited to participate. Registration is a flat-fee of \$40 for one or more events. Spectators are welcome to attend free-of-charge.

Triangle works to promote martial arts in the Bay Area, as well as self-defense and physical well-being within the LGBT community. Info: (415) 495-1888 or tktdc@al.com. ttkdc@aol.com. ▼

To promote your GLBT sports event, e-mail jimproven@yahoo.com.

Napa candidate

⋖ page **4**

Butler said he thinks Edwards has a good chance of capturing one of the two seats. The top two vote getters of the seven candidates will

getters of the seven candidates will win the seats.
"I think Napa is grown up enough, mature enough to accept our relationship. We hope," said Butler. "Our friends and neigh-bors around here have become rebors around here have become re-ally good friends of ours. They all know we are a couple. They all seem to get along with it fine. You get your few rednecks here and there in every little city." Bruce Butler, Scott's father and

a senior vice president with Prudential Securities in Napa, has lived in the town for 28 years. He said he doesn't think voters will be turned away from a candidate solely based on who they sleep

with.

"He has a lot of talent and I He has a lot of talent and I think that is more important than his sexual proclivities," said Bruce Butler, who is Edwards's campaign treasurer. "I think the name recog-

treasurer. It think the name recognition of the existing candidates of course is always the biggest issue."

So far Edwards's being gay has caused little reaction in the heart of Napa County's wine country. And both Edwards and his partner have gone out of their way to paint their relationship as no less

extraordinary than that of their

extraordinary than that of their straight neighbors.
"Our neighbors and the people that know us well have come to realize that we are gay, but are amazed at how boringly normal we are in our daily routine. We are seen walking our dog, taking care of the house, and participating in volunteer projects, like any traditional couple," states Edwards in a campaign press release.

Undercurrent in race

But there is one undercurrent to his candidacy that is ruminating throughout the town's more conservative members. Current City Council member Harry Mar-

next page

HIV prevention

lems. Information isn't the prob-lem. It is the substance abuse and mental health that need attention."

At the Stop AIDS Project, which launched a controversial ad campaign last fall picturing the ill effects of HIV medications, staff members are already working on members are already working on placing a greater focus on crystal use within the community. And although its "HIV is No Picnic" campaign received criticism from some HIV-positive gay men, the agency is committed to doing more of the same kinds of hard-hitting campaigns is 2002. hitting campaigns in 2003. "I think that the campaign was

provocative but we never set out to be intentionally provocative as much as we set out to tell the truth as seen by a group of gay men who are positive," said David Evans, the project's program director. "And I think what that campaign signals, and what you will be seeing from us in the future, is that we are dedicated to not shying away in starting dis-cussion about topics which may be tough or painful for some to hear."

Republicans present roadblock

How provocative agencies like Stop AIDS can be may be limited not by criticism from within the gay community, but by the strong-hold Republicans have on the prevention purse strings from Washington, D.C.

ington, D.C.

Not only do Republicans now control how federal funding can be spent on HIV and AIDS, but they can also put a stranglehold on those groups not adhering to their preferred safe-sex messages.

"It is very clear that the Bush administration and the conservation."

administration and the conservaadministration and the conserva-tive religious right agenda is dom-inating HIV prevention agencies. Now that they have control of both the Senate and the House, they will turn the screws even more on the CDC and agencies that want to do any creative work," said Coates. "It is just cre-ating an era of repression. The Bush administration is engaged in public health malpractice. Certainly, the policies they are promoting are not based on good evidence of what prevents the transmission of HIV."

Already one indication of how a Republican controlled federal government is reshaping AIDS and HIV prevention messages can be found on the Web site of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. After being criticized for taking down a fact sheet on condoms, the health agency launched a revamped site in early December, containing a new dis-claimer that condoms are not 100 percent effective in controlling the spread of STDs and HIV.

The Web site also plays up the "abstinence-only" ideology of the conservative Christian wing of the Republican Party. And it foretells where funding will most likely be funneled during the next two

"Abstinence is going to be a huge issue," predicted Stuart Burden, a Clinton appointee to the Presiden-tial Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS. A San Francisco resident who works as director of community affairs in the Americas for the Levi Strauss Foundation, Burden will no longer sit on the panel after his term

expires this month.

"Within a broader public health framework, abstinence is not a bad thing. But the abstinence is not a bad thing. But the abstinence is not a bad thing. nence-only message is inappropriate. This attack on condom use is something to be concerned

ate. This attack on condom use is something to be concerned about," said Burden.

While he stopped short of specifically criticizing Dr. Julie Gerberding, the former UCSF professor and researcher who was appointed by bed of the CDC in professor and researcher wino was appointed head of the CDC in 2002, Burden did say he is disappointed by any public health official who would allow politics to jeopardize the health and safety of the American public.

"They are trained professionals. They have no excuse," he said.

"They should not be moving back and forth [on public health mes-

sages] due to politics."

The new twist away from con-

doms in prevention messages and the emphasis on abstinence is also seen as a step backwards in trying to prevent further transmission of HIV. And it is a battle many in the AIDS community thought had al-

ready been won.

"I think most gay and lesbian and transgendered folks had an assumption we made a lot of progress socially and politically in the last decade. It really took the the last decade. It really took the community by surprise to be even thinking and talking about abstinence and faith-based initiatives as a viable option in the LGBT community," said Evans. "We fought that battle. It's won. We are done. "What makes that so hard is that isight towns to have in when year need to

that right now is when we need to be able to have the most honest, open, constructive discussions with each other in the community about what's working and what's not working in HIV prevention," added Evans. "It's hard to have those discussions publicly and openly when Big Brother's breathing down your neck."

San Francisco braces for worst

The Stop AIDS Project is already expecting it will come under attack in the coming months. Even before Democrats lost control of the Senate, the agency underwent two federal probes, where inspectors from the CDC and the Department of Health and Human Services examined its

programs and spending on prevention methods.

"The management and board, staff and volunteers, all of us are aware of the fact that the Bush administration, and the more con-servative elements of Congress, don't much like San Francisco or don't much like san Francisco of the work that we do here," said Evans. "And so we are looking at strategically what does that mean for us in terms of our ability and desire to use government funds to carry out our activities. Of course as always, like every organization,

we need the support of the com-munity that we work in."

Yet it is one of the agency's most vocal defenders who could inad-

vertently open it up to more attacks from Republicans. Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco), whom House Democrats picked to be their minority leader in the new Congress, has been a staunch ally not only of Stop AIDS and other San Francisco agencies, but for AIDS and HIV funding.

It is her new position of power that has some San Francisco offithat has some ban Francisco offi-cials worried Republicans may try to attack Pelosi by setting their sights on defunding those pro-grams in her district back home.

"Now that she is minority leader, San Francisco becomes targeted for those kinds of attacks. We become a surrogate of attacks ing the Democratic Party when they want to underwine them. they want to undermine things the Democrats may want to do or want to cause her some distress," warned Ernest Hopkins, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's director of federal affairs. "Now [the Republicans] will more than ever try to target assaults on activities, funding, and programs that come to San Francisco."

to San Francisco."

Nationally, AIDS groups in every city may suffer due to Pelosi's giving up her seat on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education to become minority leader. No other Democrat on the committee is as vocal a supporter of AIDS funding as Pelosi was. "That is a huge loss for us," said Hopkins. "I think that our pro-

grams and our publicity and everything that is federally funded will be under more scrutiny than ever before. Conservative Re-publicans will be interested in finding anything they can use to embarrass not only Pelosi but also embarrass the Democratic Party

Funding cuts near certain

What is not in doubt is that funding for HIV and AIDS programs will be cut in the new year. Not only are AIDS agencies bracing for cuts from the federal government, but they are also facing reduced funding from the state

AIDS groups in California al-AIDS groups in California already have been asked by Governor Gray Davis to help cut \$20 million to \$40 million from the state's 2002-2003 AIDS budget. The federal budget is still not in place for fiscal year 2003, and no one expects to see Congress approve a budget until at least February, when the president is expected to unveil his budget for 2004.

Due to the budget impasse.

Due to the budget impasse, HIV programs have been flat funded at 2002 levels and the modest increase the Senate proposed for such programs has yet to be enacted. No matter what funding is eventually approved, it is sure to be far short of what is needed.

"More people are coming in for care, and with no more new money, there is no other alternative but to make cutbacks in services or deny those people access

tive but to make cutbacks in services or deny those people access to care," said Hopkins. "Already, that has begun to happen across the country in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program."

In 2002, the city saw its share of Ryan White CARE Act funding reduced by more than 8 percent.

of Nyal Wille CARD Act triding reduced by more than 6 percent. And this year, the city could see another round of funding cuts when the federal government an-nounces in March what San Francisco will receive under the CARE Act. People living with AIDS are certain to shoulder some of the

certain to shoulder some of the budget cuts facing government and social service agencies.

"I am not worried about me. I am worried about it for other people," said Martin Hollick, who is HIV-positive and recently joined the Stop AIDS board. "Whenever there are budget gaps, people who are in need get left out. People who are poor, have less access to health insurance, those kinds of social services, they are going to suffer. And that is not a going to suffer. And that is not a good thing."

In the meantime, health offi-

cials hope to see a turnaround to the faltering economy and a return of Democrats to power.

'We have to hunker down, stay the course, and in two years, hopefully we will get a different administration," said Coates. ▼

Napa candidate

tin, publisher of the town's week-ly newspaper, the *Napa Sentinel*, suspects Edwards's run for office is directly aimed at unseating him from the council.

from the council.

In June, Martin openly opposed the Napa mayor's signing a gay Pride month proclamation. At the time, Martin said "there was a threat against me from some individuals in the gay community who said we are going to replace you with a gay candidate."

Martin said he did not support the Pride month decree because

Martin said he did not support the Pride month decree because he does not believe it is the purview of the government.

"I don't believe in intolerance. I believe they have a right to live their lifestyle. I just always felt this should be kept private. I took a lot of flak from the gay community. I am more accepting of this than they can understand," said Martin, who grew up in San Francisco and

they can understand, Said Martin, who grew up in San Francisco and has a gay relative.

Martin said he is nonplused by the newly organized political clout of the gay community in Napa. And he said Edwards's running as an openly gay man will be a handicap for him

icap for him.
"This community is very bigotty. It is like a backwater kind of
town," said Martin. "I don't know
how powerful a gay vote will be.
Maybe enough for a plurality, but
nobody knows that."

Lodger within Nana's gay

Leaders within Napa's gay community contend they support

Edwards based on his qualifications and experience, not solely because he is gay. And while they admit a letter was written threat-ening to unseat Martin with a gay candidate, they say the council seat race is more than just a

'Do I think that is why Chris is running? No. He is running be-cause in his heart of hearts, he wants to serve his community," said Deb Stallings, an out lesbian and an Edwards supporter. "Would it be so wickedly cool to see Harry Martin get beat by a gay man? Yeah, it would."

At least one backer of Edwards said he doubts being gay will be the handicap for Edwards some Napa political insiders predict it will be in the race.

will be in the race.

"Perhaps the battle won't be as tough as some people assume it to be. Maybe the valley is ready to accept an openly gay politician and we hope that is true." said Ross Jacobs, who helped found a gay Napa community group last year.
"The feet his gay is incidental to rvapa community group last year.
"The fact he is gay is incidental to
the fact he wants to run. He will
represent gay issues but that is not
all he is going out for this. all he is going out for this office for. We are not pushing the enve-

lope at all in this case."

In fact, it may be Edwards's ideas on how to ease traffic conof affordable housing which could cost him votes in the election. Ed-wards supports a light rail con-nection from the Vallejo ferry to Calistoga and into Napa Valley "I want to address it personally. Everybody complains about traffic but nobody comes up with solutions to limit it," said Ed-

In regards to housing, he said "the majority of houses approved for construction are priced at \$500,000. That tells me Napa is full for the middle class but not the wealthy."

With less than three months to

go before the March 4 election, Edwards and his supporters are focused on fundraising and informing the community about Edwards's stand on the issues.

A friend of San Francisco po-litical strategist Jack Davis, Ed-wards expects not only to get adwards expects not only to get advice from Davis but also hopes to receive financial support from the city's gay residents. He is planning to come to town to fund raise in January and has been in touch with the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club.

He hopes gay San Feangiseans

Me hopes gay San Franciscans, many of whom visit the Napa Val-ley as a weekend getaway spot, will lend their support to his cam-

paign.
"As gay and lesbian people come into the valley and spend tourist money, they should be concerned about what goes on here," he said. "They should be aware of what effect their dollars

have on the local community."

For more information about Edwards's campaign, call (707) 738-4040 or e-mail cedwards@winecountryhappen-

News in 2002

◆ page 13

Longtime city resident Eric Carl Weinmann, 47, died on September 18 of AIDS-related complications. Mr. Weinmann managed the Edge bar in the Castro, which was the site of a celebration of his life on November 9.

San Francisco 49ers star running back **Garrison Hearst** apologized for an anti-gay slur he made to a Fresno newspaper columnist. Hearst was commenting on gays being accepted in the NFL when he said, "Aww, hell no! I don't want any faggots on my team.

Out lesbian Surina Khan announced her resignation as executive director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. Khan relocated to Southern California with her

Gay city resident **Kevin Jordan** filed a \$1.25 million police brutality claim against the city after he was allegedly beat up and called "faggot" by officers during his arrest at a toy store. One of the officers allegedly involved, **Alex Fagan Jr.**, is the son of the assistant police chief and the subject of several city investigations involved. several city investigations involv-

Openly gay man **Bevan Dufty** won the December 10 runoff race

to become District 8 supervisor. He replaces Mark Leno, who was elected to the Assembly. Dufty was engaged in a heated campaign with out lesbian **Eileen Hansen** for the seat. He was sworn in December 11.

Gay man Rocky Morrison was hired as executive director for Our Family Coalition, an LGBT family

The California Supreme Court denied parole to gay prisoner Robert Rosenkrantz. Rosenkrantz has served his sentence in connection with a second-degree murder conviction and was eligible for parole, but that was denied by Governor **Gray Davis**. The high court's ruling also means it's unlikely that another gay prisoner, Mark Smith, will receive parole.

Abandoning the moniker "civil unions," several California-based gays rights groups and state politi-cians believe the best way to grant same-sex couples the rights given to heterosexual married couples is through the state's domestic partnership law.

In January, out lesbian state Assemblywoman **Jackie Goldberg** (D-Los Angeles) will introduce a new bill in the state Legislature new oil in the state Legislature that will seek to add the myriad rights and benefits straight cou-ples receive through marriage to the dozen or so rights gay couples already receive by becoming do-mestic partners.

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 0262883-00

STATEMENT FILE 0262883-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Projex Programming Services. 356
Chester Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94132.
This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Darryl Manco and Dan Hue. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on October 26, 1998. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/09/2002. DEC. 12, 19, 26, JAN. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0262884-00

STATEMENT FILE 0262884-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Dimension A. Salon. 2040 Union Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Darryl Manco and Dan Htwe. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 20, 1998. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/09/2002

DEC. 12, 19, 26, JAN. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0262681-00 STATEMENT FILE 0262681-00 The following person(s) are doing business as:Quality Home Repair. 224 Holladay Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paul Sasso. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 27, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 1127/2002. DEC. 12, 19, 26, JAN. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0262660-00 STATEMENT FILE 026260-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Inquiline Theatre Company, 323 Church Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Craig M. Stein. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 26, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 1127/2002.

DEC. 12, 19, 26, JAN. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0262897-00

STATEMENT FILE 0262897-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:Danny's Building Services. 635 8th
Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Evangelina Z. Vega and Evaristo
Vega. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 10, 1997. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 1270/2002. DEC. 12, 19, 26, JAN. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0262923-00 THE LEMENT FILE 0262923-00
The following person(s) are doing business as:1. -level, 2.1-level communications, 3. i-level creative, 4. i-level pictures 4714-25th Street San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jeff Iorillo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business name or names on December 05, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/12002.

12/112002. DEC. 19, 26 JAN. 2, 9 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0263002-00 STATEMENT FILE 0263002-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Kim Huong Banh Mi, 325 Leavenworth
Street San Francisco, CA 94102. This business is conducted by an individual.
Signed Nhuhoa Nguyen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 29, 1994. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 1216/62002. DEC. 19, 26 JAN. 2, 9 2003

The following person(s) are doing business as: Billp, 2128 Grove Street San Francisco, CA 94117. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jeff F. Southard. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/09/2002. STATEMENT FILE 0262887 DEC. 19, 26 JAN. 2, 9 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540507

In the Matter of the Application of Jennifer Ann Fox. For change of Name. The application of Jennifer Ann Fox for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Jennifer Ann Fox has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Jennifer Ann Judson Fox. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 16th day of January, 2003 at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. DEC. 19, 26, JAN. 2, 9, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0263072-00 STATEMENT FILE 0263072-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Direct High Speed Wireless. 2080
Castro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131.
This business is conducted by an individual signed Joey Kollin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed ficititious business name or mames on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/18/2002. on 12/18/2002. DEC. 26, JAN. 2, 9, 16, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0263035-00 STATEMENT FILE 0263035-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Unplugged Internet. 2080 Castro Street, Saranisco, 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Joey Kollin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/16/2002.

DEC. 26, JAN. 2, 9, 16, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0263063-00 THE THEM PILE 0263063-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Fog City Cab. 999 Pennsylvania #A,
San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Sonny
Tam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business mame or names on NA.
The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Câ. on 1217/17/202. DEC. 26, JAN. 2, 9, 16, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0263218-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Blueline Group, The Blueline Group, 66
Marston Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112.
This business is conducted by an individual signed Volker Keith Meinhold. The registrant(S) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/26/2002. STATEMENT FILE 0263218-00 12/26/2002. JAN. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0263147-00 STATEMENT FILE 0263147-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: BigMuscleMedia, BigMuscle, BigMuscleMedia, BigMuscle, BigMuscleBear. 156 Shawnee Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Andrew J. Wysocki. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 12/20/2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/20/2002.

JAN. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003 STATEMENT FILE 0263178-00

STATEMENT FILE 0263178-00
The following person(s) are doing business as: Bearsoft, Normalgay.com, Averagegay.com. 156 Shawnee Avenue, Averagegay.com. 156 Shawnee Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed William J. Sanderson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/23/2002. 12/23/2002. JAN. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLLE BEVERAGES
To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is Tangerine Cafe LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite: #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 4949 16th Street San Francisco, Ca. 94114. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540542

In the Matter of the Application of Rhonda J. Eckley For change of Name. The application of Rhonda J. Eckley For change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Rhonda J. Eckley has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Lovetta Martinez. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter da appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 15th day of February at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. JAN. 3, 9, 16, 23, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILLFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-02-540547

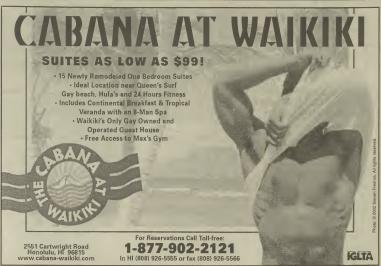
FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02\$40547 In the Matter of the Application of Monica
Betty Kuan For change of Name. The
application of Monica Betty Kuan for
change of name, having been filed in Court,
and it appearing from said application that
Monica Betty Kuan has filed an application
proposing that his/her name be changed to
Monique Betty Kwan. Now therfore, it is
hereby ordered and directed, that all
persons interested in said matter do appear
before this Court in Department 218 on the
18th day of February at 9-700am, of said
day to show cause why the application for
change of name should not be granted.
JAN. 3, 9, 16, 23, 2003

JAN. 3, 9, 16, 23, 2003

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALLIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540506

In the Matter of the Application of Erin Kaye Judson For change of Name. The application of Erin Kaye Judson for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application frame, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Erin Kaye Judson Fox. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 16th day of January, 2003 at 9.00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. for change of name should not be gra DEC. 19, 26, JAN. 2, 9, 2003

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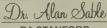
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The Marlboro Man is "the ultimate stud," "orally fixated (positive)," and "maybe a great one-nighter."

This is from a 1994 tobacco company-sponsored report on reaching the gay market. A report from another tobacco company detailed marketing specifically to gays and homeless people. The report was called Project Sub-Culture Urban Marketing. Also known as Project SCUM. Was that just a harmless acronym? For more information, visit www.projectscum.org.

Billy De Frank

Legacy

American Legacy Foundation

Ramon Novarro, da bomb Biographer André Soares describes a lifetime obsession. page 29

Best in the West 2002, part two Maybe you thought we could forget the television and pornography industries? pages 33, 36



Hot town, hot times 'Chicago' comes to the screen as a masterpiece.



BAYA REAR EPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAINM

Vol. 33 • No. 1 • 2 January 2003



Chained melody Roman Polanski's 'The Pianist'

opens at the Clay Theatre by Robert Julian

t's a curious thing when a talented director produces brilliant work, then descends into irrelevancy. The fall of Roman Polanski occurred somewhere in the 1980s, around the time of his rape conviction and self-imposed exile from the United States. After directing classics like Rosemary's Baby, Chinatown, Repulsion, and Tess, Polanski moved to Paris and slid into obscurity and inactivity. Flore like Pirates

States. After directing classis in Renkeemary's Budy, rematown, Repulsion, and Tess, Polanski moved to Paris and slid into obscurity and inactivity. Flops like Pirates and Bitter Moon didn't help. But with The Pianist, Polanski is back, and in fine form.

The Pianist is a true story, based on the autobiography of Wladyslaw Szpilman, a Polish Holocaust survivor. At the beginning of World War II, there were 500,000 Jews in Warsaw. At the end of the war, there were 20; Szpilman was one of them. The Pianist opens in 1939 as Szpilman plays a Chopin nocturne on Polish radio. The broadcast is interrupted by a Nazi bombing raid, and soon war is declared. With the Nazi occupation, Szpilman, his parents, and his siblings are all forced into a tiny apartment in the Warsaw ghetto. Szpilman will be the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust that follows. The Pianist charts his personal odyssey until January 1945, when Warsaw is liberated.

In the title role, Adrian Brody appears in almost every scene. Brody's wonderfully modulated performance is a

perfect complement for Ronald Harwood's intelligent perfect complement for Ronald Harwood's intelligent and restrained screenplay. Polanski handles both with great care; and although the film runs two and one-half hours, it is never dull. Unlike Steven Spielberg, who de-scends into bathos at the end of Schindler's List, Polanski maintains enough distance from the subject matter that the viewer never feels emotionally manipulated. The material is strong, and the horrors of Szpilman's ordeal are not minimized, but the forces of good and evil are never stereotyped or oversimplified. Most importantly,

never stereotyped or oversimplified. Most importantly, The Pianist is a survival story, defined by the courage, luck, and talent of one man. As such, it is not depressing. The Pianist won the top prize at this year's Cannes Film Festival, and other awards will follow. Production designer Allan Starski recreates WVII Warsaw with re-markable clarity. Starski and cinematographer Pawel Edelman create a visually compelling cinematic palate, shooting in color while simultaneously conveying the bleak monochromatic world of Warsaw's condemned minorities. Polanski, a childhood survivor of the Pol-ish Holocaust, is the perfect director for this story, and ish Holocaust, is the perfect director for this story, and he has created a powerful film. ▼

The Pianist opens tomorrow, January 3.



Head transplant successful

4-year-old column gets headline, kicker

by Roberto Friedman

hen people ask us, "Why doesn't the Out There column ever have a headne?" (people like Our Art Director), we have to respond, "Well, because it's never had a headline!" because it's never had a headline!" That's circular reasoning, we know, but true. Never before, even during its previous incarnations under other, more varied arts ed-

But every year at summer's end, the Design Desk goes off to do psychotropics in the desert, and each year damned if they don't come back more creative! In

the same spirit of change and solstice recharging, we resolve to give the old-girl column a crown, one of those beauties in down-style bold we call a proper hear line. Now you, **Dear Reader**, have some-thing else to look at be-

while we were re-decorating, we decided to lose the second name in our byline that was

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always something like Leggy Legacy or Bobby Bubbe-lah. The secondary attribution was our way of ac-knowledging that Out There has always relied on a secret network

dishing the dirt, and know that's the way, uh huh uh huh, we like it. But we're finished with coming up with the equivalent of a ditsy drag name every week to indicate this. From now on, you'll know that, Romantic

know that, Romantic solitaires though we are, we do rely upon the kindness of strangers.

And they are strange.

Cork-poppers

We don't know where these two youths, fresh from the whack two youths, fresh from the whack publicity campaign for Piper-Heidsieck's "Baby Piper 4-Pack," rang in the New Year, but we're certain it couldn't have been more elegant than the Stone-Morgan Mansion, where OT Eve'd with a stellar crowd brought together by hosts UB Morgan and Will Shark We'd name more names. **Shank**. We'd name more names of pipers baby and otherwise who were there, but alas: Though you read these inky lines in newborn year 2003, we wrote them back in

Wizard of Moz

We guess it doesn't take much to whet our appetites, but the best news we've heard so far this year is that Morrissey is set to sign with his old record company, Rough Trade, to release a new album, Irish Blood, English Heart. album, Irish Blood, English Heart. The Moz has been living in LA sans record deal, while his legend has only grown. Rumors that the former Smiths singer enjoys a cultish vogue among Latino youth in the Southland were confirmed when he played the Greek Theatre last fall on a double-bill with Jaguares. OT promises to further investigate this population.

Surf 'n' turf

We're not sure whether to chalk up the erotic appeal of this wetsuit ad, which graces the back cover of Surfer mag's January issue

"What you don't see is what
you get," it promises, though if



Baby Pipers toast the arrival of a new headline for Out There



Surfer mag ad gets us wet

cally tell the Sutted-up Stud sre-ligion — to heterosexual inno-cence or a legitimate offer. A Surfer subscriber assures us that those lanky lads of the surf may be even more protective of their het image than lawsuit-happy Tom Cruise: "They're homophobes of the first order." Duly noted, but we still feel targeted (and stimulated!) by the ad campaign.

The face of power

We enjoy the fact that embedded in the noxious phrase "Bush dynasty" is the very word "nasty." Now, a series of **Richard Ayedon** Now, a series of Richard Avedon portraits of players in the Bush I Administration (at Fraenkel Gallery January 4 through March 1) provides a look at the belligerent white men who ruled the world then and now. THE FAMILY, The Rolling Stone Portfolio, a suite of 69 portraits Avedon took in 1976, includes a photo of George Bush taken while he was Director of the CIA, and a photo Director of the CIA, and a photo of **Donald Rumsfeld** during his

Selections from these portraits of buttoned-down men are com-plemented at Fraenkel by another



Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, Washington, D.C., 1976

Avedon series, Andy Warhol and

Members of the Factory, New York City, photographed in 1969. That makes two inbred and very peculiar clans, opposite sides of the same American coin, on view at

Recycled Love

Recycled Love
From Sridhar Pappu's media column in the New York Observer: "Not long after Talk shut up, [editor-in-chief] Tina Brown told the New York Times: 'I have been swimming in a howling sea of Schadenfreude for the past three years.' Where'd she get such a sparkling bon mot? Maybe her own pages: Talk's unpublished last issue featured an interview with Courtney Love in which the rocker was quoted complaining about her 'three years swimming in a howling sea of Schadenfreude.'" That's a lotta hanging Schad, no wonder Tina likes the ring of it.

Trouble child

What is it about former child stars that makes them, as malad-justed adults, want to dangle ba-bies off balconies and do other

page 28 ▶

THE NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER



Song of the South

'Strange Fruit' to play the Roxie Cinema

by David Lamble

ast on the heels of the Trent Lott fiasco comes a little film that spotlights a very sorrow-ful chapter in the American expe-rience. Strange Fruit, which plays January 8-14 at the Roxie, is the

rience. Strange Fruit, which plays January 8-14 at the Roxie, is the story of a song, the man who wrote it, the female vocalist who is forever identified with singing it, the movement whose anthem it became, and, ultimately, the hauntingly poetic description it provides to incredible acts of violence, a metaphor for the darkest stain on our national identity.

In the spring of 1939, Abel Meeropol was teaching high school in the Bronx when he came across a photo of a black man hanging from a tree. Something in that picture, itself the fruit of a terrible crime, inspired a poem. "Southern trees bear a strange fruit. Blood on the leaves and blood at the root. Black bodies swinging in the Southern breeze,

strange fruit hanging from the poplar trees." Meeropol set his poem to music (under the goyishsounding pseudonym, Lewis Allan), and the song found its way to jazz vocalist Billie Holiday, who would adopt it as her signature piece, first performing it at Café Society, a Greenwich Village nightspot that is believed to be the first integrated club in New York.

The popularity of "Strange Fruit" (it reached #16 on the Billboard charts despite getting almost no airplay on radio) was a mixed blessing for Meeropol, who at that time was trying to trade teaching for a writing career in

at that time was trying to trade teaching for a writing career in movieland. The song, quickly adopted by the Left as the anthem for the campaign to enact an anti-lynching bill in Congress (blocked by the filibuster antics of 22 sena-tors from the Old Confederacy), was seen by the Right as evidence was seen by the Right as evidence of Communist subversion in the suspiciously lewish ranks of pub-lic school teachers. Meeropol him-self was hauled in front a witchhunting legislative committee, and his dreams of Hollywood riches cut short by the advent of blacklisting by the motion picture

Joel Katz's film movingly cap-tures the multiple ironies that grew out of Meeropol's song. In-terviews with the composer's now-adult sons reveal a shy, idealistic man with a wacky sense of humor who would later have to battle Holiday over authorship of the music of his song. He also fought Tinseltown censors who cut an in-Tinseltown censors who cut an in-terracial lyric from his song "The House I Live In" when it was per-formed in a patriotic short subject by Frank Sinatra. A funny story has Meeropol ejected from a the-ater playing the film when he start-ing shouting back at the screen. Katz shrewdly whets our ap-petite for "Strange Fruit" by delay-ing until the film's second half an incredibly visceral verformance of

incredibly visceral performance of the song by Billie Holiday on British television a year before her death in 1959. Lady Day, who de-



Billie Holiday sang 'Strange Fruit' defiantly through the McCarthy era.

fiantly sang "Strange Fruit" all through the McCarthy era, gives the song's searingly beautiful words the precise diction that carries the full weight of contempt for a culture that sanctioned the crime of lynching. She turned the protest ballad into a haunting blues that speaks to the paradoxical nature of the human soul.

Strange Fruit is a tribute to the great coalition of African-Americans, immigrant Jews and Leftist activists who set the stage for the victories of the Civil Rights era. At the same time, it hints at the fragility of all such alliances. In the film's closing moments, Katz fit-

fragility of all such alliances. In the film's closing moments, Katz fit-tingly includes an image of Matthew Shepard in a montage of lynching martyrs.





lan Bostridge, David Daniels, Christopher Maltman and Julius Drake bring Britten's Canticles to life

Giving Britten his due

Gay composer, countertenor, love song

by Jason Serinus

Britten: The Canticles – Ian Bostridge, David Daniels, Christo-pher Maltman, Julius Drake, piano (Virgin Classics)

he much-anticipated pairing of our greatest young Britten tenor. Ian Bostridge, and most versatile countertenor, David Daniels, yields impressive results. This 75-minute disc, pairing Britten's five Christian-inspired Canticles with seven of his most deeply-felt folksong settings, deserves a place in every music-lover's collection.

Britten, who wrote much of his

lover's collection.

Britten, who wrote much of his vocal music for his life-partner, tenor Peter Pears, was a devout Christian and pacifist who frequently coped with conflicting ideologies and their toll on humanity. through music. The first three of his extended *Canticles* were composed in the late '40s and early '50s, posed in the late 40s and early 30s, shortly after the composition of the seven folksong settings heard here, and the pacifist couple's self-imposed exile to America during WWII. The last two Canticles date from Britten's final compositional

from Britten's final compositional period in the early '70s.
Although "Canticle I: My Beloved is Mine" is a setting of a 17th-century elaboration on a line from the Biblical Book of Canticles, it comes across as an ardent declaration of male love, especially when sung by a tenor. Immediately appealing in its lyrical flow, this ly appealing in its lyrical flow, this ecstatic mini-cantata finds a wel-



come home in the warmth and come home in the warmth and sweetness of Bostridge's voice. Equally appealing is "Canticle II: Abraham and Isaac." Composed in 1952 for the irreplaceable duo of tenor Pears and alto Kathleen Ferrier, it finds fresh realization in the inspired partnership of Bostridge and Daniels. The men's voices blend wonderfully, with countertenor Daniels ideally insecont and pure as the son Abraham of the property and pure as the son Abraham of the property and pure as the son Abraham of the property and pure as the son Abraham of the property and pure as the son Abraham of the property and pure as the son Abraham of the property and pure as the son Abraham of the property and property nocent and pure as the son Abraham is about to sacrifice.

nocent and pure as the son Adraham is about to sacrifice.

Thanks to a recent release in the BBC Britten The Performer series, we can hear a 1956 mono rendition of Britten and horn virtuoso Dennis Brain accompanying Pears in "Canticle III: Still Falls the Rain." Recorded a year after the work was written, Britten's setting of poet Edith Sitwell's searing indictment of war faithfully reproduces Pears' unique ability to capture the essence of suffering, rotting flesh, and spiritual decadence in a manner equally hypnotic and repellent. Drake's pianism may not be a searing as Britten's, and Timothy Brown's horn may be recorded a little too distant, but

Bostridge uses his beautiful voice and probing intelligence to create an emotionally convincing por-trayal of Christ's suffering.

Pierced heart

The last two Canticles are both The last two Canticles are both settings of poems by T.S. Eliot. "Canticle IV: Journey of the Magi" pairs Bostridge and Daniels with the gorgeously-voiced baritone Christopher Maltman; "Canticle V: The Death of Saint Narcissus" features harpist Aline Brewer accompanying Bostridge in an eerily effective realization of Saint Sebastian pierced by arrows.

Britten and Pears recorded sev-

bastian pierced by arrows.
Britten and Pears recorded several of the early folksong settings in the mono era; others were recorded by Britten and soprano Sophie Wyss in 1943 (EMI Classics). Here, the seven songs are variously distributed among Maltman, Daniels and Bostridge.
To my mind, no one sings "O To my mind, no one sings "O Waly, Waly" better than Kathleen Ferrier; her second version, from Ferrier; her second version, from 1952, offers an incomparable blend of deeply felt spiritual conviction, emotional loss, and vocal beauty. Maltman is luscious in "The Plough Boy," but hardly as deep as Arleen Auger in "Down by the Salley Gardens" or Pears in "The foggy, foggy dew." Daniels overdoes some of the pathos in "O Walv, Walv," and Bostridge refusoverdoes some of the pathos in "O Waly, Waly," and Bostridge refuses to let "Greensleeves" sing for itself. Despite such reservations, if you have never heard the depth that Britten's genius leant to simple folk melodies, these performances will offer revelations. ▼





Schubert, finished and unfinished

Andsnes and Uchida approach the master gay composer

ometimes nice guys start last.
Arguably the last truly great
composer to gain a permanent place in the piano pantheon
is Schubert, who in my lifetime
was once regarded as a remarkable
tunesmith whose work in the bigger, more serious forms was welterweight. Sure, there have always

been front-rank pianists, like Schnabel, who championed some of his music, but there was usually something partial, qualified, even hesitant about their efforts. There has been a sense among others, like the lordly Alfred Brendel, that it is the pianist who is conferring importance upon poor Schubert. I beg to differ

I can't help noticing that Schubert has reached true acceptance

at roughly the same in history — I mean now — that the rest of us have. There are still those who want to deny him his gayness, too but smarter people are learning to listen to Schubert and not his "de-



The most recent pianist to lay claim to a complete cycle of the sonatas is Leif Ove Andsnes. There probably isn't an all-around nicer guy in the music business today, and there's no denying his talent. He's been awarded the prestigious (and hugely supportive) Gilmore Award, and now heads his own chamber-music festival, in his na-

thamber-inductive Norway.

He's launched his prospective cycle on EMI with a worthy performance of Schubert's penultimate, A-Major Sonata, and added five Schubert songs, accompany-

ing the high-demand tenor Ian Bostridge. The CD leaves no doubt about why everyone wants more of Bostridge, who reportedly made a typically pithy contribution to one of Andsnes' festivals. But it needs saying that the tenor has now recorded Schubert with at least three different pianists, and while Andsnes is the only one with a big solo career of his own, he's also the least interesting of the three, on CD at least.

I wouldn't call his playing recessive. Andsnes is a full musical

partner, and interestingly at his most trenchant in the long song, "Auf dem Strom," in which the pair is joined by horn player Timothy Brown for a truly interesting addition to the standard Schubert repertoire on CD. But musically, Andsnes is definitely a bottom,

And not a bossy one, either.
Things could be worse. He weighs in with an A-Major Sonata that has a clear point of view start to finish and never lacks for personality. Andsnes writes about the weirdness and even wildness of the sonata's second movement, and he backs up what he says in the notes at the "other" keyboard. His is definitely contemporary Schubert, wise to the composer's fleeting changes of emotion, with-in amply sturdy compositional structures. The only real problem



is the competition. If you follow up his A-Major with Mitsuko Uchida's, you wonder how Andsnes could play so well in his sleep.

To be fair, everyone suffers this fate in the shadow of Uchida's Schubert survey, which has come to its end with a Philips CD of the A-Minor Sonata, D537, the A-Major Sonata, D 664, and the two sets of German Dances. The only thing that keeps this conclusion. thing that keeps this conclusion from being a sad occasion is the curiosity about what this supremely gifted pianist will illu-

minate next.

I tried what I thought would be a more favorable comparison in preparing to listen to Uchida's latest. I had cut my teeth on the Schubert of Wilhelm Kempff, the first pianist to have recorded the



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Out There

◆ page 26

foolish things? The AP reported that former famous toddler **Adam Rich** (whom you'll remember as sweet little Nicholas on *Eight Is*

geles last week after cops stopped him for driving in a closed high-way lane and almost colliding with a police car.

Rich has struggled with drug abuse in the past, so police, sus-pecting he was driving under the influence of something or anoth-er, booked the 34-year-old, then

Enough) was arrested in Los Angeles last week after cops stopped

took him to the hospital for treatment. So not glamorous.

Death of glamour

RIP celebrity photographer Herb Ritts, who died last week at 50 due to complications from pneumonia at UCLA Med Center. If you think things have If you think things have changed in the mainstream media since the days when the NY *Times* wouldn't use the word gay, consider how many of Ritts' obituaries neglected to mention his out gay orientation. The *Chron* omitted mention of his partner **Erik Hyman**—and all his other survivors. Back to Obits 101 for them! ▼



Herb Ritts, 1952 - 2002

FILM

Mad Max in Spain



panish director Juan Carlos Fresnadillo has drawn a lot of advance notice for his thriller Intacto opening Friday in Bay Area theaters. Here Fresnadillo is on the set with his hand on towering screen presence Max Von Snydow, who plays a WWII survivor now running a bizarre, decadent casino sited in a barren lava field. Fellow survivors Tomas (the sexy Leonardo Sbaraglia), Federico (Eusebio Poncela) and Sara (Monica Lopez) play out a series of games and challenges in this fast-paced suspenser. In Spanish with English subtitles

Obsessed with Ramon Novarro

Biographer André Soares reflects on a lifetime affair

by Jay Blotcher

hen André Soares, the author of Beyond Par-adise: The Life of Ramon Novarro (St. Martin's Press), the masterful new biography on the silent film idol, calls himself "ob-sessive," believe him. The 38-yearold author has carried a torch for the actor — whose greatest tri-umph was the title role in the 1926 classic Ben-Hur — since Soares' early teens in Brazil. Beyond Paradise, which illuminates not only adise, which illuminates not only the actor's rise and fall, but the heady era when a grove of citrus trees morphed into a star factory called Hollywood, is the culmina-tion of a fascination spanning 26

Growing up in Catholic Rio de Janeiro with an early realization of his sexuality, Soares felt isolated. "I his sexuality, Soares felt isolated. "I was always a lonely kid," he recalled in a telephone interview from Los Angeles, speaking in a lyrical, Portuguese-edged accent. "I didn't know anyone else was gay, who was like I was."

At 12, Soares came across a mention of Novarro in a book. The 69-year-old actor's brutal 1968 murder, at the hand of two hustling drifters in his Laurel

1968 murder, at the hand of two hustling drifters in his Laurel Canyon home, was as ignominious an outing as Hollywood had ever seen. While there was no accompanying photo, the Mexicanborn Novarro was identified as a matinee idol. Soares thought, "He must have been attractive and masculine." And so he was: in its review of Ben-Hur, the New York Times praised the five-foot-six actor's performance, calling Novarro "a sturdy, handsome young chap, with an excellent figure."

Soares became infatuated. The gifted student was learning Englifted student was learning Eng-

sifted student was learning English at the time, and would scour library shelves for any books on his newly-appointed spiritual guide. But the films of Novarro guide. But the films of Novarro were long out of circulation, especially the silent movies that cemented his career, placing him briefly at the top of MGM's star roster, and securing him the distinction of Hollywood's first Latin American movie star. He was groomed by studio suits to be a Latin lover like his contemporary, Rudolph Valentino.

After seening Novarro films on

After seeing Novarro films on Brazilian television, Soares was



hooked. "I was eager to learn more." He came out to his parents, and moved to Los Angeles in 1993, for college film studies. There he spent countless hours at the West Hollywood Silent Movie House, becoming better acquainted with Novarro.

ended up an egotistical, tempes-tuous man with a penchant for driving drunk, and procuring the favors of rough trade. *Beyond* Paradise includes a recent interview with one of Novarro's

Soares traces Novarro's spiral Soares traces Novarro's spiral unflinchingly, but in empathic tones. "He became less and less accepting of himself," he explained. "When he was young, he was able to compartmentalize himself—homosexuality, religion, family—but as he grew older, the drinking

grew worse.

"I could easily have turned Novarro into a Hispanic hero or a gay hero. But he wasn't either. He was a complex human being who happened to be gay and Hismir."

Despite Soares' command of the material, Novarro remains stubbornly opaque as the central player in his own life. Even pieces from selected correspondence and Novarro's unpublished memoirs,

Soares hopes that Hollywood, fresh from its love affair with Frida Kahlo, will consider a filmic treatment of Novarro's life. "It's a great story, very dramatic."

In Beyond Paradise, Soares conjures the eras of Novarro's life, from his uncertain beginnings in Mexico to his arrival in Holly-wood, from his early screen triumphs to his brief stint as a director and screenwriter, to an operatic career internationally as the movie roles dried up.

Career moves

A semi-closeted homosexual who nonetheless shrugged off a faked marriage for publicity's sake, Novarro also remained an sake, Novarro also remained an ardent Catholic. A shrewd careerist, he became lovers with Herbert Howe, a prominent Tinseltown scribe who made Novarro a mainstay in his columns for *Photoplay*. But after *Ben-Hur* and the costume epics *Mata Hari* and *The Prisoner of Zenda*, Novarro's institute, followed he outed for a fortest part of the state of the context for a source of the same of instincts faltered; he opted for a string of lesser films which pre-maturely dimmed his career. He since they omit salient details about his sexuality or inner con-flicts, fail to bring the man fully

into focus.

Until Soares' book, our knowledge of Novarro came from Kenneth Anger's naughty (and increasingly discredited) *Hollywood Babylon*, which claimed the mur-Babylon, which claimed the murder weapon was a dildo given to him by Valentino. Soares' only wish is that his book finally puts to rest the "pathetic" rumor. Currently, he is working on a book about minorities in Hollywood, from the early days through the

'60s.

He hopes that Hollywood, fresh from its love affair with Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, will consider a filmic treatment of Novarro's life. "It's a great story, very dramatic." For the title role, Soares offers two candidates: singer Carlos Ponce or actor Antonio Banderas.



Novarro wasn't a gay or Hispanic hero, he was a complex human being

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Pause," by the artist known at Yek, adds a certain something to Flair," a flashy opening at Heather. Marx Gallery. See Thursday.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

What women want

omen's music lovers, consider yourselves incredibly lucky; omen's music lovers, consider yourselves incredibly lucky; you live in the Bay Area, currently ablaze with amazing independent women rockers, folk singers, jazz artists and more. In San Francisco, two venues in particular showcase their talents in monthly programs that mix and match women and men to great effect. In the Mission there's Dolores Park Cafe (corner of Dolores & 18th St.), where Deborah Pardes, Katharine Chase and Alexis Harte of the Mentl Music Label (www..mentlmusic.com) have long been hosting "San Francisco Songs" on the first Friday of every month. Their gig has featured many top talents, including Blame Sally, BeRn, Amy Meyers, Teja Gerkin, Melissa Dougherty and a whole lot more. sa Dougherty and a whole lot more.

Out in the Richmond District, the city's most important folk-music venue, the legendary Bazaar Cafe (on California St. between 21st & 22nd avenues), offers nightly events with top-notch folk musicians, all playing exclusively their own music — no covers allowed!

covers allowed!

Garrin Benfield's popular First
Wednesday "GLBT Songwriter Series"
at the Bazaar has played host to a slew
of lesbian singer/songwriters. There
P've heard the likes of Ellis (www.ellismusic.com) who's a sheer delight with
her brilliant smile, gorgeous guitar playing and wedliging and irrespressible.

Ellis ing and vocalizing, and irrepressible spirit. She lights up any space she inhabits. The great Marca Cassity played her downtempo stuff at the Bazaar to mesmerizing effect, though she's one of the toughest, best women rockers in the land (for details about her 1999 Broken Records Marca Cassity album, email marcac@hot-mail.com). The wonderful Kenni & Friends (www.kenni.com) have played Friends (www.kenni.com) have played the Bazaar many times, and the latest newsflash is that they'll be taking over hosting duties for Benfield's GLBT songwriter gig at the Bazaar Cafe start-ing on Wednesday, February 5. Other bands and singer/songwriters to check out include True Margrift (truemzergit com) whole a which in her

(truemargrit.com), who's a whiz in her



Marca Cassity



Kym Tuvim

yboard-driven vocalizing; Cool Violet (coolviolet.com), rocking with cool let (coolviolet.com), rocking with cool passion, like the name says; a most excellent songsmith, Stephanie Haffner (stephaniehaffner.com); and Seattlesbased Cake Records artists Holly Figueroa — the original indiegral — and super-sweet balladeer Kym Tuvim (cakerecords.com). (cakerecords.com).

This is only a tiny taste of what's happening in the women's music scene. For a great online resource to the rest of the fun, visit www.sfgrtz.com ▼

Fri 3

Center for the Arts

YBCA Premiere: "The Fleshing Memory," a new multimedia dance work by Wattis Artists-in-Residence The Wattis Artists-in-Residence The Foundry, as part of the Bay Area Now 3 Center-wide festival of contemporary visual art, performance and film from the Bay Area. The Foundry was created by dancers Alex Ketley and Christian Burns to explore new ways of integrating live dance, theater and video. Their video installation in the Grand Lobby comprises footage shot in YBCA's non-public spaces, turning boiler rooms and internal corridors into unseen presences in an unfolding bonier rooms and internal corritors into unseen presences in an unfolding drama. For this work they collaborate with Torsten Z. Burns, Rita di Lorenzo, Andrea Flores, Marina Hotchkiss, Anthony Luensman, Derek Powell and Nick Yagoda. \$12 (\$10 seniors, students members). Stem Also, or, land. dents, members). 8pm. Also on Jan. 4. YBCA Forum, 701 Mission St. Info/tix: 978-ARTS (2787); www.YerbaBuanaArts.org

SFMOMA

Video screening: Untitled (Even Elec-tric Sheep Can Dream),"2002, By Rirkrit Tiravanija. No Ghost Just a Shell protagonist Annlee reads the en-tire text of Philip K. Dick's classic work of science fiction, Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep, in Tiravani-ia's eight-hour digital animation. Fris Dream of Electric Sneep, in Linvani-ja's eight-hour digital animation. Fri-days, January 3, 10, 17 and 24; also Sundays in January and February. Free with Museum admission.11am-6pm. Phyllis Wattis Theater. San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. (btwn Mission & Howard). Info: 357-4000; sfmoma.org

New College Cultural Center New College Cultural Center "Warrior Deets Performance Poetry," with voices singing, shouting, soaring, howling, murmuring, whispering and wailing the truth. Featuring Alan Kaufman, The Other Brothers, Jo Sanzgiri, The Refugees and many oth-ers. Free. 8pm. 766 Valencia St. (btwn 18th & 19th sts.).

MAX @ Due Ragazzi

MAX @ Due Ragazzi
MAX (Men's Associated Exchange)
takes over Due Ragazzi restaurant for
TGIF cocktails & dinner. 7:30pm &
9pm seatings for dinner; reserve a
table for you and your friends. MAX is
a membership-supported fraternal organization that strives to provide a
fun, open, diverse and welcoming community for gay men via social and
Philanthropic events. Admission free
for MAX members; \$7 for guests.
6pm-10pm. Located on 18th St.
across from Cala Foods. Info:
www.maxonline.org

La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley

Center, Berkeley
Screening: Picardy Drive, produced,
directed and edited by M.T. Silvia,
with music by Klaudia Promessi, featuring the residents of Picardy Drive,
a neighborhood in the heart of East
Oakland. A documentary about what
it's like to live in what some consider
a "dangerous" neighborhood. A compelling silce of American life. S5-520
sliding. 7:30pm. 3105 Shattuck Ave.
Info: 510-849-2568; smartgirlproductions.com tions.com

Freight & Salvage, Berkeley
Dale & Dan Zola present "The Great
Night of Soul Poetry," a celebration
in words and music of the works of
Pablo Neruda, mary Oliver, Rainer
Maria Rilke, D.H. Lawrence, W.B.
Yeats, and Billy Collins — poets who
express the depth of the human heart
with powerful images, evocative language, and tenderness towards life.
Presenters: Doug von Koss, Chetana
karel, maya Spector, Carolyn Zola,
and Ray Gatchalian. With Ernie
Mansfield on flute, Claude Palmer on
oud (Middle Eastern lute), Brad van
Cleave on tabla, and Randy Rood on
didgeridoo. \$15.50 adv.; \$16.50
door. 8pm. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. Info: 510-548-1761; freightandsalvage.org Freight & Salvage, Berkeley

Magic Theatre
Preview: Choreographer Joe Goode's
"Body Familiar, a new full-length
'play with movement.' It follows
Leonard, a visual artist whose sculptural medium is body parts — he assembles the bones, organs and skins of
animals into haunting, beautiful installations — who longs for the only
man he ever truly loved. \$17-\$37;
\$50 opening night (Friday, Jan. 10).
\$10 student/senior/under-30 rush.
Wed.-Sat 8pm. Bldg. D, Fort Mason
Center. Tix/info: 441-8822; magictheatre.org

New Conservatory Theatre Held over by popular demand: "The Neo-Dandy Cabaret," instigated and directed by Keith Hennessy, featuring spoken word by Mattilda and Kirk spoken word by Mattilda and Kirk Read, metal opera by Reginald, dance rituals by Tho Vong, and guests. Presented by NCTC in association with Counter PULSE & ZERO Productions. \$15-\$20. 8pm (2pm Sun.). Thru Sun., Jan. 5. NCTC, 25 Van Ness (near Market). Tix/info: 861-9073. was needed for the specific productions of the specific production o

Sat 4

'Fairy Butch' @ El Rio "In Bed With Fairy Butch For Gals, Transfolks & Their Pals," for Butch and FTM admirers of every stripe. Gals and transfolks of all colors and Gais and transforks of all colors and their pals are welcome to come on down to EL RIO, take in all of the testosterone, and stuff a wild jock-strap! Femme & andro admirers come too, there'll be tons in the audience! too, there'll be tons in the audience! Includes a sex toy extravaganza raffle ticket. DJ dancing till late after show. \$10-\$15 sliding. Doors open 8pm; show at 9:30pm. 3158 Mission St. (at Cesar Chavez). Info: FEZ-8000, Bar: 282-3325.

'Hedwig' @ Victoria Theatre Continuing, open-ended run: the acclaimed rock musical "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," by John Cameron Mitchell, with music and lyrics by Stephen Trask. Starring Kevin Cahoon, with Lisa M. Engelken, Matthew Black, Nick Fogler, and Matthew Sperry. Directed by Jason Eagan. Music direction by Perry Jay. \$25 & \$30, Wed., Thu., & Fri. at 8pm; Sat. at 7 & 10pm; Sun. at 7pm. Open-ended run. 2961 16th St. (btw. Mission & S. Van Ness). Info: hedwigsf.com. Tix: 392-4400; www.tickets.com 'Hedwig' @ Victoria Theatre

Bottom of the Hill

Bottom of the HIII
Garrin Benfield plays a benefit for
Bourgeois Magazine (www.bourgeoismagazine.com) along with Stymie &
The Pimp Jones Luv Orchestra, Loquat, The Fingers, and Enda. \$10 adv;
\$12 door. 8pm. 1233 17th St. Info:
621-4455; bottomofthehill.com

Temescal Arts Center, Oakland

Center, Oakland
In concert: Loretta Lynch, the new
cowgirl in town, with vocalist-bassistguitarist Valerie Esway, vocalist-guitaristmandolinist Ari Fellows-Mannion, vocalist Heather Davison, and
guitarist-wocalist Joe Rut. Soaring
three- & four-part harmonies; high &
lonesome mandolin; powerful rhythm;
dreamy slide guitars. Plus: Montreal
Weekend, folk rock with multi-instrumentalist songwriters (wame
Copeland (vocals, guitar, harmonica)
and Adrian West (vocals, violin, guitar), with Tom Devine joining on bass,
plus John Maurer as guest on drums.
Opening: singer/songwriter extraordinaire Adam Benjamin, one of the
greatest lyricists of our time. 56-515
sliding, Snacks & beverages available.
8-10:30pm. 511 48th Street, Oakland. Info: montrealweekend.com/Calendar.html

Sun 5

'K'vetsh' @ Sadie's Flying Elephant

"K'vests," queer spoken word and Open mic, Hosted by Lynn Breedlove and Tara Jepsen. the first Sunday of every month. \$1 admission. 7:30pm signup; show at 8pm. 491 Potrero (at

SF Prime Timers @ First Unitarian

@ First Unitarian
San Francisco Prime Timers (the former G40+ Club) meet to collect nonperishable foods, toilet articles, etc.
for the Project Open Hand Grocery
Center. Guest speaker Tom Nolan has
served as Executive Director of Open
Hand since Sept. 1994. He was a
member of the San Mateo Board of
Stures for pictit wars and was its press. member of the San Mateo board of Supes for eight years and was its pres-ident twice. In his spare time, Nolan enjoys jogging and has been working on a screenplay. 2-4pm. 1187 Franklin (at Geary). Info: 552-1997.

Mon 6

Jon Sims Center for the Arts Jon Sims Lenter for the Arts Queer Swing Dance Class. All ages. No partner or experience needed. 7pm "Level 1 Plus" Swing Class. 8pm "Level 1" basics for beginners. 9pm "Level 2." Expand your Lindy vocab-ulary with new moves from Savoy, Smooth, West Coast styles and more. Propressies A-week classes meet every Smooth, West Coast styles and more. Progressive 4-week classes meet every Monday in January. \$13 per lesson for those 21 & up; \$6.50 for under 21. Series: \$40 per 4-week session per person; \$70 for couple. Work



Caroline Link's Nowhere in Africa opens the 8th annual "Berlin & Beyond Film Festival" at the Castro Theatre. See Thursday.



Marit Brook-Kothlow and Mark Rafael Truitt appear in "Body Familiar," choreographer Joe Goode's new "play with movement" at the Magic Theatre. See Friday.

study available. Jon Sims Center for the Arts, 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & South Van Ness). Info: 305-8242; www.queerjitterbugs.com

View 155

View 155
Libby Black can't afford to buy a
1969 280 SL Mercedes Convertible,
so she built a life-sized one out of
paper. The convertible is in car showroom glory, placed on a rotating platform so all angles are visible, accompanied by car tunes. Black's work drives into issues of class and expectalines of appreciators, where fave obves into issues of class and expecta-tions of perfections, where faux ob-jects gratify installed needs. Presented by the SF Art Commission Gallery. Free. 24 hrs per day. 155 Grove St. (at Van Ness Ave.). Info: 554-6080; sfacgallery.org

Tue 7

SFMOMA

Free Tuesday Program: "The Creation of Annlee," presented by SFMOMA Curatorial Associate Nathalie Dubuc, who will discusses how the technology-based works in "No Ghost Just a Shell" call into question notions of representation and aesthetics. 12 Noon. Phyllis Wattis Theater. Info: 357-4000; www.sfmoma.org

The Plush Room

The Plush Room
Bradley "Memphis" Cotton and The
Beale Street Band play "The Elvis
Show: A Rock n' Roll Pary," peppered
with personal accounts of Memphis'
family and hometown connections with
Elvis Presley. He weaves the songs
that launched Elvis to stardom with
stories of Elvis dear to the hearts of
fans. \$15 adv.; \$20 door. 8pm. York
Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix/info: 9054433; memphiscotton.com

Wed 8

Center for the Arts

Center for the Arts

Chicago Reader film critic and YBCA
Wattis Artist-in-Residence Jonathan
Rosenbaum, author of Movie Wars:
How Hollywood and the Media Conspire to Limit What Films We Can
See, presents Abbas Kiarostami's the
Wind Will Carry Us (1999, 113
min.), about four men who arrive from
Tehran at a remote villiage in Iranian
Kurdistan, and are soon met by
Farzad, a small boy who acts as their
guide in a secret mission. A beautiful,
challenging film celebrating life's
small wonders and incidents of the
veryday. It show with the House is
Black by Forough Farrokhzad (1962,
23 min., video), a profound look at a

leper colony by one of Iran's greatest poets. \$6 (\$3 seniors/students/Center members). 7:30pm. YBCA Screening Room. Tix/info: 978-ARTS; YerbaBuenaArts.org

New College Cultural Center New College Cultural Center Global Exchange presents "A Woman for Peace: Medea Benjamin." A powerful voice in human rights activism, Benjamin is an organizer of the Women's Peace Vigil in Washington, D.C., designed to oppose a war with Iraq. She is a Founding Director of Global Exchange. \$10. 7:30pm. 766 Valencia St. Info: Katrina at 255-296. av 244: qlobaleschange organizer.

7296, ext. 244; globalexchange.org Modern Times Bookstore

Modern Times Bookstore
Reading & book signing with SF photographer Charles Gatewood, who will
show slides of work from his classic
books Sidetripping (with text by
William S. Burroughs) and Primitives,
both recently reissued by Last Gasp
Publishing. Gatewood has been called
the "family photographer of America's erotic underground." Freer.
7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th
St.). Info: 282-9246; moderntimesbookstore.com

Lush Lounge
Richard Nicols' "Live at the Lush,"
an open mic for local cabaret singers
at SF's liveliest Martini Piano Bar.
Rehearsals at 8:30pm. Bring your
sheet music. Show at 9pm. \$5 cover.
1092 Post St. (at Polk). Info: 7712022 wow, the lushblunge com

Thu 9

Heather Marx Gallery
Opening reception: "Flair," the first
installment of an ongoing series of exhibitions investigating flair in art.
Works by Timi Bavington, Alex Blau,
Gregory Dennis, Jennifer Faist,
Stephen Gianetti, Terry Haggerty,
Gary Szymanski, Sharon Weiner, and
Yek. Free. 5:30-7:30pm. 77 Geary St.
Info: 672-9111;
heathermarxgallery.com

School of the Arts

School of the Arts
San Francisco's arts high school presents "Media Night," featuring 32
short films over two nights by current
SOTA film & video students. \$10 (\$5
students). 7pm. Also on Jan. 10. 555
Portola Drive (at 0'Shaughnessy).
Info: 695-5700; www.sfsota.org

Fraenkel Gallery

Opening: "Richard Avedon: Andy Warhol and the Factory [1969], The Family [1976]." Runs January 4 through March 1, 2003. In 1969, Richard Avedon began using an 8" x 10" view camera on a tripod to yield

images with extreme detail. That same Images with extreme detail. That same year he photographed Andy Warhol and members of the Factory. In a final frame that was ultimately cut, Avedon depicted Warhol videotaping the actor Joe Dallesandro in a post-coital state. That image, as well as other works, will be exhibited here for the first time. Free. 10:30am-5:30pm Tue-Fri.; 11am-5pm Sat. 49 Geary St. Info: 981-2661; fraenkelgallery.com

SEMOMA

SFMOMA

SFMOMA and the SF Film Society present "The Seventh Art: New Dimensions in Cinema," a film series with monthly screenings paired with discussions with filmmakers, curators and critics. Tonight: Cremaster 3 by Matthew Barney (2002; 182 min, screened with intermission). Barney's epic Cremaster cycle concludes with this fifth installment. Set in the Chrysler Buldiding and the Guggenheim with characters as varied as giants, chorus girls and an architect (Richard Serra) and his apprentice (Barney), the artist's complex and violent universe demolishes the limits of architecture and film, sexual impulse and aesthetic expression. Followed by a discussion with Richard Flood, chief curator, Walker Art Center. \$15 gerl admission; \$12 members, students, secniors, 6pm (early start time). Phyllis Wattis Theater, SFMOMA. Tix: sfmoma.org; sffs.org; ticketweb.com

New Langton Arts

New Langton Arts

Opening reception: Dark Horse, the
West Coast premiere of New Yorkbased, multidisciplinary artist
Michelle Rollman's sensational installation. Beneath the velvet-and-satin
trappings of girlhood fantasy, Dark
Horse tells a playfully deviant fairytale of revenge and innocence lost
through sculpture, video projection,
and large-scale drawings. The centerpiece is a life-sized velvet horsehead
lying at the foot of a larg bed surrounded by drapery. Presented in conjunction with the world premiere of
Velvet, an original musical performance inspired by Rollman's visual
work, the 1944 film National Velvet,
and Anna Sewell's Black Beauty.
Post-party in Langton's downstairs
theater space, with music by "..."
(Jenya Chernoff, Angela Coon, and
John Shiurba). Reception free; \$5 donation for post-party only. 6-8pm reception; 8:30pm party. 1246 Folsom
St. Info: 626-5416; www.newlangtonarts.org

tonarts.org

Castro Theatre
Opening Night Party and Screening:
The Goethe Institut presents the 8th
annual "Berlin & Beyond Film Festival," featuring new films from Germany, Austria and Switzerland.
Tonight: Caroline Link's Nowhere in
Africa. This German Oscar entry stas
Juliane Köhler (Aimee and Jaguar) in
the true tale of a Jewish family that
flees the Nazi regime for a remote
farm in Kenya. As the war rages on
the other side of the globe, the parents' relationship to each other and to
their strange environment becomes increasingly tense, only their young
daughter opens up and embraces the
new culture. Producer Peter Herrmann will be present at the screening, \$10 film only, \$25 party & film.
6.30pm party (upstairs); 8pm screening, Tix/info: 263-8760;
www.goethe.de/sanfrancisco

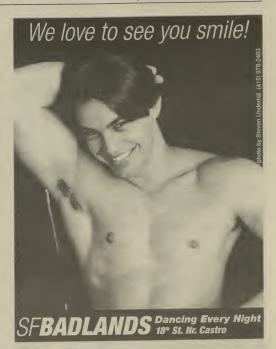
26 Mix "Coed Magnetic: The sounds of the '80s, the smells of the '70s, and sex without touching!" A dyke fag trans dance nite featuring New Wave, funk, disco, punk, hip hop, freestyle, rap, psych & soul with DJs Bodystocking, DM Feelings & Jill, plus projections by Passe. \$3. 10pm-2am. 2nd & 4th Thursdays. 21+w/ID. 3024 Mission St. Info: 826-7378

WANNA SUBMIT?

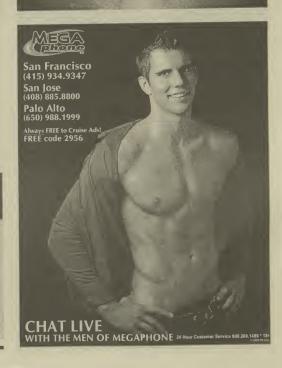
Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

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The Ram cometh!

Get ready for Chinese New Year 4701

hy Mister Marcus

ebruary 1, 2003 will usher in the Chinese Lunar New Year 4701, the Year of the Ram, an occasion that will be celebrated in San Francisco on Saturday and Sunday, February 15 & 16 at the Chinatown Community Fair, featuring lion dancers, martial arts displays, calligraphy demonstra-tions, and much more.

tions, and much more.

According to www.virtualmalaysia.com, "The ram is a gentle person, caring and compassionate. They are quiet when hurt,
are strongly family-oriented and
being born under the sign of art,
love beautiful things. The ram is
the most feminine of the twelve
animal signs. Rams are thought by the most feminine of the twelve animal signs. Rams are thought by the Chinese to be harbingers of peace. Rams are pacifist by nature, only becoming militant in order to restore harmony, and are quick to react against conflict to bring peace. Rams love the good life, and their dislike for aggression and love for peace stems more from their love of fine things and the realisation that to enjoy these the realisation that to enjoy these things, peace is required."

That's sound advice for you

in this post-holiday time of year. I hope there aren't too many hangovers floating around out there!

The Year of the Horse is going out rather sub-dued, which is not to say December 31st was "amateur night" (as they say in bartender circles), or that the rest of the year was lacking. Yes, indeed, 2002 had its festive

Mama Reinhardt's toy drive was a success. The goal was 2000 toys, but in the end, there were 2, 127 toys collected, and \$2,750 in cash donated!

cash donated!

In New York City, Mr. LURE
2002 Walt Weiss celebrated his
50th birthday with a "Leather,
Lace & Laughter" benefit for Teens
Prepared for Life, Inc., and in the
process raised over \$14,000. He
pulled off the elegant affair with a



With "Mama" Reinhardt and Bob Brunson looking on, Mr. SF Leathe Peter Jackson delivered a stirring speech last September at the Leather Pride Flag raising in Harvey Milk Plaza. Jackson will proudly bear the sash until Saturday, March 8 at the Eagle Tavern, when he passes it to

lot of help from his friends.

In Baltimore, Hooker and Boys
Productions held a star-studded
gayla at the Hippo and raised
\$5,156 for four AIDS-related charities.

So you see, our leather tribesmen (and women!) were active during the holiday season. Bravo to

A fresh beginning

From coast to coast and from conti-

nent to continent, it's a whole new ballgame in the coming months as far as the leather nation is concerned. Look for many more innovative, fun events, especially ones beneficial for the needy and sick.

The biggest event in January is the Mid-Atlantic Leather Weekend in Washington, D.C., taking place the weekend of January 17-20. On Saturday afternoon of that weekend, the "how" margan and the state of the state o weekend, the "boy" movement takes over with an "Adopt A Boy" benefit for the NCSF for a \$5 donation. You get 2.5 hours of "service" from any one of several boys that will be auctioned off at the DC Eagle from 1500-1700. Don't miss this one!

miss this one!

The host hotel (Washington Plaza) has been sold out for months now, but nearby hostelries will still be waiting for your hot leather body. For complete info on the whole weekend, click on www.leatherweekend.com or call 202-388-1010.

call 202-388-1010.

The next weekend (January 24-26), it's the 10th Anniversary of the Mr. Alaska Leather Contest in Anchorage where hordes of leather glitterati will converge; the other half of the holy cows will attend CLAW in Cleveland, Ohio which features IML 1st runner-up Borisz Mos (Mr. Leather Holland) and other leather title holders. No and other leather title holders. No contest in Cleveland, but pure leather stuff as only Dennis McMahon can do!

Bare chests 2004

The "2004 SoMa Bare Chest Calendar" contests kicks off on Thursday, January 9 at the Powernext page

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Leather

Mr. Gauntlet II Leather in Los Angeles, the first of nine contests yielding candidates for Mr. Los Ange-les Leather 2002 at the end of March.

Wednesday, January 8

Golden Shower Buddies swim into 933 Harrison tonight for their monthly wet night. You know the rules, modus operandi for this one. If not, call 777-

Thursday, January 9

Mr. January 2004 will be chosen at the Bare Chest Calendar contest at the Powerhouse at 2130. The judges for this one are Joe Potter, Scott Brogan, James Geras and Ingu Yun.

Friday, January 10

If you find yourself in San Diego, Ms. San Diego Leather Sheryl Dee is hosting a lasagna dinner at the Big Kitchen from 1800 to 2000 with a \$10 do-

Saturday, January 11
The 2nd of 9 contests when the Black & Tans stage their Mr. Regiment Leather contest at Pistons Bar in North Long Beach. Winner goes on to compete for Mr. Los Angeles Leather

Weekend, January 16-19

Mr. British Columbia Leather weekend in Vancouver when Gordon Alexander steps aside. The contest is on Saturday night.

Thursday, January 16

Mr. February 2004 for the Bare Chest Calendar will be chosen tonight at the Powerhouse at 2130. The judges are Ken Ferraris, Doug Mezzacappo, James S. Geras and porn aficionado Will Clark.

Weekend, January 17-20

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend in Washington, DC by the Centaur MC club. First big leather event of the year with lots of input from the boy community. For info, click on www.leatherweekend.com.

In Phoenix, Arizona, it's the Southwest Master & Slave competition to choose someone to compete at the International Slave & Master competition in Dallas in April. For more information, click on:

Wednesday, January 22

Leather Buddies gather at 933 Harrison tonight; no nonsense, no cologne, no white sneakers, no at-titude! Strict dress code! For info: 777-HEAD.

Thursday, January 23 Mr. March 2004 for the Bare Chest Calendar tonight at 2130 at the Powerhouse. Judges: Tim Chanaud, Ross Dierking, James S. Geras and Keith

Weekend, January 24-26

10th annual Mr. Alaska Leather Contest in anchorage at Mad Myrnas. I'll be there so you'll be the first to get the results!

Toujours, l' porn, toujours

ike any other regular guy, I spend a lot of time thinking about the Princess Salome. She, too, was a daughter of desire. I wonder, what did she think she was getting, and why did she give so much (everything, in fact) to get it? Although the longing for good head is undoubtedly universal the peculiar application of Salathe peculiar application application application application application application application application application appl sal, the peculiar application of Salome's choice certainly illustrates how unfulfilled desire can pervert rational thought.

And then there's that assuredly

And then there's that assuredly thornier proposition. How in the fuck do you stage the Dance of the Seven Veils? You know, the dance was never a part of the story until Oscar Wilde put it in his play. Yet his script hardly explicates what it's supposed to be. There's only this meager stage direction: "Salome dances the dance of the seven veils." It's not even nish-capped. This striptease of Salome's is

This striptease of Salome's is nothing but a little porno dance. Yet its importance is so profound that a king capitulates before it. Salome gives Herod the truth of her nudity, and in it Herod sees the truth behind desire: the promised commingling

Karrnal Knowledge being, and with it, the ultimate and essential loss of self.

The truth of nudity, then, is Free-

I'm a romantic, I know, too an I'm a romantic, I know, too analytical and hungry for validation and justification, but I keep expecting porn to deliver the startling truth of Salome's simple dance. Yet most pornographers are fabulists. The tales they tell of nudity are not tales of truth, but fallitize, beyonded in seven times. falsities, shrouded in seven times seven the number of Salome's veils. For me, porn only appears true when its performers are not called upon to act, but are acting on their desire. This happens reg-ularly in the artfully unplotted meditations of Titan Media and



Gabriel Cortes in Titan's Fallen Angel book of porn star photographs

Raging Stallion Studios, and, not surprisingly, in fetish features, where the veils of fiction are dropped, and the players stand ex-

Best of the Year:
Last year, Titan released a Best Movie,
Trespass, just as the
lists were being
drawn up. This year
it's Gorge that's slipping under the wire, and
it's impressive

pressive.
On a less

mental scale, my personal best to Raging Stallion's Resort to Anything. Also a lot of fun: the films of Michel Lucas, All World's Greed and Jocks' Headgames, both directed by Chi Chi LaRue, and Part Two of Chip Daniels' Tight Ends and Wide Receivers.

and Wide Receivers.

Best Orgies: Titan's Manplay series gets better and better, really taking off with numbers 3 and 4, while the kinky nastiness of Manplay Xtreme fried my lubricant.

Best Solos: Falcon's Alone With

Best Amateur: Defiant Studios, whose "I'm-straight-but-don't-mind-sucking-your-cock" skate-boarders and bike messengers are

horny entertainers.

Best Company There Oughta
Be a Law Against: Treasure Island
Media. They're not politically cor-

rect. But they make good porn.
Pictures Holding Still: Titan's
Fallen Angel Collection is the most Fallen Angel Collection is the most glamorous book of porn star photographs ever. It's historic: the first time a collection of photographs has been dedicated to a single series of porn flicks. And it's gorgeous: Brian Mills' photos, richly reproduced, are a wonderment of earthy and erotic masculine invitation.

and erotic masculine invitation.
Nuptials of the Year: Blake Harper's presence in a movie is always robust, but we had perhaps become complacent with him. So his marriage to Colton Ford was like, "Margot, meet Rudy," Ms. Fonteyn was hardly ready to retire when she fell into the arms of Mr. Nureyev, but

what a goose he gave her.
Things to Come: Cum is what's
coming. Watch for it soon in a
mouth near yours. There have
been a trickle of articles leaking the news that orally ingested cum is rarely the cause of AIDS. And a trickle of mainstream porn has been brave enough, sane enough, to depict cum in mouth. So it's going to be an issue. It's the essence of the thing, after all. And

page 36 ▶

*I*hy wait AUVENVENIE BERKELEY CHICAGO SAN JUAN 2417 MEN'S BATHHOUSE 2107 4TH STREET BERKELEY 510.845.8992 www.steamworksonline.com

Mister Marcus

previous page

house (all contests will be at the house (all contests will be at the Powerhouse this year) and then take place almost weekly thereafter. The "committee" wants to have the calendar ready for sale by IML weekend in Chicago, and will have a booth there at the Leather Mart to start the annual sale.

Yes, already 2004 looks like it will be a busy year with scads of events coming your way, includ-

events coming your way, includ-ing the 25th anniversary of Inter-national Mr. Leather in Chicago on Memorial Day weekend.

Imperial Court campaigns begin

In San Francisco, since the leather community is closely aligned with the Imperial Court System, know that the Emperor and Empress coronation takes place on Saturday, February 22; the voting will take place on Saturday. the voting will take place on Sat-urday, February 15 at various lo-cations. The candidates have not yet been approved, but with but-tons already out all over the place, it is evident that the campaign is

January clothing drive

Throughout the month of Jan-uary, Mr. Gay San Francisco Lance uary, Mr. Ğay San Francisco Lance Brittain is spearheading (after a 2-year absence of the event) the 5th "Together, Miracles Will Happen Clothing Drive" to benefit the St. Anthony Foundation. For more info, call (415) 592-2727. They'll even pick up furniture you may want to donate. Drop-off sites are: Marlena's, Club Rendez-Vous, Aunt Charlie's, Mr. Lee-Ona's, the Powerhouse, Mr. S Leathers, Daddy's and the Edge. Powerhouse, Mr. S Leathers, Daddy's and the Edge.

The drive continues through

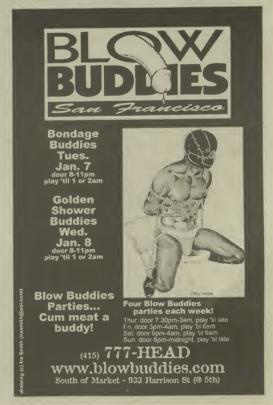
January 31, so clean out your closets! Tax receipts are available upon request. This drive is in coordination with Emperor Berlin and Empress Barbie, Ms. Gay SF Manley Lennox and the Imperial Council of San Francisco.

The dish-mobile

The brouhaha that almost de-Leather Awards nominating process has been cleared up and almost everyone seems happy with the end results. When members of the leather community of Amsterdam heard about two people who had been nominated

(claiming those two sent in their own nominating sheets), the out-burst was worldwide. Dave Rhodes, owner of the Pantheon Awards claimed innocence and said he could do nothing about it unless his board of directors approved it. Fortunately, cooler heads prevailed and those who acneads prevailed and mose with ac-tually vote on the winners have been advised of the displeasure voiced by people in the U.S. and overseas. 'Nuff said about this shameful development. The highly publicized wedding ceremony in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park last Summer between Mr Opegon State Leather.

Golden Gate Park last Summer between Mr. Oregon State Leather Rob Hathaway and Dallas playboy Dan Azavedo is no longer a picture of wedded bliss. As far as can be determined, Mr. Azavedo is running wild as he always has and Mr. Hathaway has relocated to Palm Springs, California. One of the two was barren, so there will be no "pick of the litter" from this doomed marriage. Whether this union's ultimate demise could have been predicted beforehand is a matter of conjecture. Anybody who knows Dan knows he will never be tied down! At least in a never be tied down! At least in a marriage situation!



Hog-Town hoedown

Rob Marshall nails 'Chicago' the musical

by Robert Julian

atherine Zeta-Jones is much too horsy to be a Bob Fosse dancer; Richard Gere is no song-and-dance man; Rene Zellsong-and-dance man; Rene Zell-weger has a marginal voice; and the original Broadway musical by Kander and Ebb was always dra-matically weak. Yet director/choreographer Rob Mar-shall has taken all these liabilities and somehow created the most artistically rewarding Hollywood. and somehow created the most artistically rewarding Hollywood musical since Cabaret (1972). Chicago is an amazing success—fun, flashy, fast, and full of the sort of sly good humor that makes the viewer walk out of the theater with a smile on his face. It is, in short, a miracle.

short, a miracle.

Cabaret featured the remarkable triumwirate of Liza Minnelli, Michael York, and Joel Grey, in a musical with large patches of dialogue, set against an epic story of war and genocide. Chicago is a tabloid tale of lust and larceny in Hog Town. But Marshall takes control of the show from the opening song, "All That Jazz," demonstrating he can choreograph a musical number as an homage to the late Bob Fosse. But he quickly gets that out of the way, abandoning Fosse's trademark gyrating pelvis to establish a style of rating pelvis to establish a style of

Velma Kelly (Zeta-Jones) is late Velma Kelly (Zeta-Jones) is late for her number at the Onyx Club, where she and her sister do a mu-sical act. And her sister is a no-show. This is because Velma dis-covered said sister, en flagrante, with her husband — and killed them both. That doesn't keep a them both. I hat doesn't keep a tardy Velma from doing the num-ber all by herself. In the audience, Roxie Hart (Zellweger) aspires to stardom. Married to a boring dolt, Roxie has taken up with a hand-some manipulator who promises

an introduction to the club owner. That same evening, when Roxie discovers her abusive boyfriend is just stringing her along, she pulls out a pistol and blows him away. Soon Velma and Roxie are the glamour at the local slammer, guarded by a very butch Matron Morton (Queen Latifah), and represented by Chicago's premier criminal defense attorney, Billy Flynn (Gere).

Anything goes

This is the set-up for the prison shenanigans and courtroom intrigue that follow, with events all neatly connected by the narration of The Bandleader (Taye Diggs). But more importantly, this slim story serves as the excuse for a series of delightful musical numbers ries of delightful musical numbers that cut back and forth between reality and fantasy. In the Prohibition era, Chicago is a town where anything goes. The press produces a daily diet of pulp for a public hungry for scandal. God forbid a chorine should become yesterday's news. Today's has-been could be sent to the gallows tomorrow.

Rob Marshall sets the perfect tone for Chicago, drawing re-

tone for Chicago, drawing remarkable performances from each of his actors. In the supporting role of Matron Morton, Queen Latifah quietly steals the show by creating a brassy, black momma

who is part Mae West and part Joseph Stalin. Latifah exudes charisma. But Gere, Zellweger, and Zeta-Jones deliver exactly what is required to put *Chicago* over the top. Screenwriter Bill Condon (*Gods and Monsters*) provides a nice adaptation of the original book, with just enough dialogue and exposition to get us through to the next number. And through to the next number. And the musical interludes are a de-light. Marshall uses many quick cuts, often splicing narrative clips into the musical performances.

into the musical performances. This technique keeps things moving, and smoothes out any unevenness in plot or performance. Bob Fosse made Chicago a Broadway success because of his unique visual style and distinctive choreography. And Rob Marshall has done precisely the same thing with the film version. Marshall wisely understands that, in this case, imitation would not be the case, imitation would not be the sincerest form of flattery; it wouldn't make the best cinematic product. He courageously steps out on his own with a clear vision, backed up by talent. As a result, Chicago becomes a contemporary classic inspired, but never limited, by material that is over 25 years old.

Now playing.



Catherine Zeta-Jones as Velma Kelly in Chicago, an amazing success

Nicholas Nickleby

■ Arts cover

Everage) Humphries, the openly gay Nathan Lane, Alan (*Cabaret*) Cumming, Jamie (*Billy Elliot*) Bell, Tom (*The Dresser*) Courte-Bell, Iom (Ine Dresser) Courtenaxy, Edward (Performance) Fox, Juliet (Food for Love) Stevenson, Timothy (Gothic) Spall, Christopher (Ararat) Plummer, plus Charlie (the original Queer as Folk) Hunnam as Nicholas. Everyone here is either queer, played queer, portrayed a queer's mother

queer, portrayed a queer's mother or father, or once met Madonna. Is that a coincidence?

McGrath sidesteps the question gracefully with the following reply: "Well, the diciest or the most unusual piece of casting is Barry Humphries [who plays Nathan Lane's wife]. It came to me this way. I was kind of analyzing what Mrs. Crummles' charac-

ter was. She's sort of hammy and I thought, Who is that? Then I re-alized I was thinking of Dame Edna. Well, I know Barry a little bit because I talked to him about bit decades I taked to limit about trying to find a way to use Dame Edna in a movie long before this. And everybody I've seen play Mrs. Crummles was actually a little more masculine than Barry. I mean, the woman in the Royal Shakespeare production was like a tank." If you're really sharp, you'll notice Barry in a second part, too

Chin wags

But even if you're not too sharp, your heart will go into overdrive when Charlie Hunnam is on the screen. So imagine sitting next to him, a young man looking like a barely postpubescent Nor-wegian sailor, with an adorable blonde beard hanging on ever so dearly to a masterpiece of a chin.

dearly to a masterpiece of a chin. The beard, by the way, is a remnant from Cold Mountain, the film he just completed which stars Jude Law and Nicole Kidman.

"In my next picture, I might also need a beard," Hunnam explains. "I didn't shave it off because I don't grow facial hair too quickly."

So what attracted nim to the titular part of Nickleby (other than the obvious answer, "It's the titular part, and I get my face blown-up on all the posters")?

"The thing that really attracted me to this role was that I got the script in January of last year, after September 11th," Hunnam notes. "I just felt humanity was in such a precarious place. And I thought, what a good message to send out to people about the importance of family, virtue, honor, and just basically pure goodness. Those are things young people aren't taught or really aspire to. It's not really cool in the MTV generation to walk around with a T-shirt saying

walk around with a T-shirt saying Virtue on it."

As for the aftermath of Queer as Folk, did that strengthen Hunnam? The thespian Adonis admits, "Working with good people strengthens you. Going for something you believe in, following it through. I felt Queer as Folk was a really important thing to do, and I'm kind of proud of what we achieved. It was no accident that it came to stir up the debate that it did. You know, the legal age of consent for homosexuals in England when the show was released page 36 b

page 36 ▶



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Barry (Dame Edna Everage) Humphries (right) is in the house

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concerts west

Lavender Tube

The best and worst of TV 2002

by Victoria A. Brownworth

e would be hard-pressed e would be hard-pressed to assess a single, most egregious "worst" on TV. With TV, the most deadly of the mass cultural art-forms, worsts are built in. Thus we tend to focus on the best, because those bests keep us timed in

TV's best continues to be news reportage, because even though much of it is repetitive and unispired, there are the glimmers of brilliance that remind us of what DTIIIance that remind us of what TV can do: bridge chasms within the global village and take us to where very different lives than our own are being lived, often courageously, in the midst of unmitigated hell.

The keet in the course.

The best in the news category The best in the news category was Nightline's reporting on conflicts in the Middle East, and the particular attention host Ted Koppel has paid to Israelis and Palestinians. Especially memorable was an interview with the chief coroner of Israel, the man who must speak to the families of those dead speak to the families of those dead from suicide bombings. The im-pact of the program came down to several seconds of singular horror as he held out his hand, proffering silver beads no bigger than the head of a pin, and explained how they had killed a family of five.

Also noteworthy were Night-line's series on: the Congo; the staline's series on: the Congo; the status of women in Afghanistan; the epidemic that some pretend is over, AIDS; and the hideous human rights abuses in North Korea. Nightline also gets honorable mention for repeatedly addressing queer issues, including a series on queers in Middle America, and a fabulous interview last Friday with lesbian music icon Ani DiFranco. Ani DiFranco.

The worst news coverage of the year was a tie between the noncoverage of the continuing war in Afghanistan, where tens of thou-sands of American military are still sands of American military are still stationed; and the warmongering over Iraq, where thousands more are being sent. Not even PBS has made a concerted effort to present any serious balance on these top-ics. Every network deserves equal negative points for refusing to report on the human rights abuses occurring in the US and Guatanamo Bay to the so-called "detainees" — an unknown num-ber of men and women being held as material witnesses to terrorism,

as material witnesses to terrorism, or because their visas from Middle Eastern countries have expired. On the semi-news beat, NBC's Today show continued to outrank its competitors, besting ABC's uneven Good Morning America and CBS's dreadful Early Show. Katie Couric remains morning's best interviewer and TV pit bull, never letting her fantastically chic shoes and her always-perfect lipstick

letting her fantastically chic shoes and her always-perfect lipstick deter her stellar reporting.

The Sunday morning talkingheads fests had only one best, the relentless and nonpartisan Tim Russert on NBC's Meet the Press. The worst was ABC's This Week, which canned veterans Cokie Roberts and Sam Donaldson, both suffering from cancer, and replaced them with former Clingelia. replaced them with former Clin-ton White House rep George Stephanopoulus, who is clearly out of his depth leading the show.

Cringe factor

Reality TV likes to think of it-self as newsy, though of course it's anything but. Reality TV is a worst category all its own, but the worst of the worst was unquestionably

ABC's huge ratings-grabber, *The Bachelor*, which made us cringe weekly. On Jan. 8, ABC premieres the distaff side of the show, *The* Bachelorette (The Spinster sounded too retro), in which the second-runner-up in the first Bachelor gets to pick the man of her dreams. Good luck. If the men are as insipid as the women, it would be easier to go directly to *Divorce*

Survivor still gets the best for Reality TV, with honorable mention to

Amazing Race. Both CBS shows are exciting, and take us to take us countries

really can't afford to visit. Also worth an honorable mention is worth an honorable mention is the uneven but intriguing ABC reality show, *The Mole*. Next week, ABC premieres a celebrity version (well, celebrity has-beens). Set the VCR — this show is full of twists. TV drama had several bests for 2002. The absolute best continues to be NBC's fabulously-written and acted Framy. heavyweight

and -acted Emmy heavyweight The West Wing. ABC gets kudos for maintaining the intensity of the long-running NYPD Blue, though we would really like to see

queer character John Irvin (Bill queer character John Irvin (Bill Bochstrup) get a consistent story-line. The writing and acting are superb; the show is frequently directed by queers, and the story-lines often feature queer topics.

Queers have infiltrated NBC's other honorable mention, ER. Queers are often problematic in the NBC series that gets both a best and worst rating

best and worst rating from us, the Law & Order three-show franchise. The shows are well-acted, -paced, and -written, but have a disconcerting prob-lem with sexism and

homophobia. Killers this sea son have most often been women, which hardly reflects the

women, which hardly reflects the 2% of murders committed by women in the US each year. The linkage between pedophilia and homosexuality has also been made repeatedly on the L&O shows, notably L&O: SVU, which focuses on sex crimes.

We must also give a best to HBO's fantastic Six Feet Under, which has everything a drama should have, including a main queer character.

We acknowledge that sitcoms aren't our particular our of horse

aren't our particular cup of brew-

ski, but this season had more worsts than usual. We were even disappointed with our favorite sit-com, NBC's Will & Grace, which has been very uneven. ABC's new Eight Rules is funny, but it's so unbearably heterosexual that, well, we can't watch it. The best sitcom this season: FOX's incomparably amusing and oh-so-smart The

mixed best and worst is ABC's All My Children, which has maintained its lesbian storyline maintained its lesbian storyline with main character Bianca Montgomery for over two years, but has yet to allow the now college-age Bianca to have a relationship in which her lover doesn't leave town die great group die great group. leave town, die or get murdered. Ditto NBC's Saturday Night Live, which often presents pro-queer material, but just as often presents

material, but just as often presents homophobic jokes.

NBC's public-service campaign The More You Know, focusing on racism, homophobia and other isms, is an important best. Worst PSA: the What-drugs-do campaign that your tax dollars are paying for. Your joint may indeed be connectated by the state of the patients and the business these in patients. Your joint may indeed be connected to hurting those in nations run by drug cariels, but your diamond is most assuredly killing and maiming, and your SUV is doing the same. Where are the PSAs about those social problems?

Nicholas Nickleby

◆ page 34

was 18, and for heterosexuals, 16.
Three months after the show began, they repealed the legal age of consent for homosexuals to 16." So there.

16." So there.

The adorable Jamie Bell, who gets whipped in Nickleby as the ever-put-upon Smike, has fond and not-so-fond memories of his groundbreaking international success as Billy Elliot. Dressed like a teen who's watched 8 Mile once too often, he relays, "I took Smike's part because I want to get rid of that Billy Elliot label. I need to lose that child image. Get rid of to lose that child image. Get rid of that as soon as possible, because everybody knows me as the happy, dancy kid with the ballet shoes around his neck. People still come up to me and say, 'Billy! Brilliant film!' It does get annoying, because that was like three years ago, and it's like, 'Can we move on?' But the thing is, Billy was such an inspirational person to so many people that I can understand why they still see me as that foure"

that figure."
By the way, did you ever read Nicholas Nickleby?" I tried on several occasions," Bell admits. "In fact, I'm still reading it now. I did buy TV versions that were put out in the UK. The problem was I was making the movie and doing my exams at the same time. So I was reading a set novel which was To exams at the same time. So I was reading a set novel, which was To Kill the Mockingbird, and I was reading the script and making the movie. I got two As in English, and Cs in Geography, French and Information Technology, and Es in Science and Math, but I kind of expected that. I was most impressed with my two As in English because I love English, and I wanted to be a journalist for ages, but having met so many of you, that's knocked it out of me.

Enter the dapper Barry Humphries in a lovely hound's tooth, three-piece suit expressly tailored for him in Hong Kong. I decide I'll try the "What about all gay icons in this film?" question

"Gay icon!! Sounds like a terri-ble destiny, doesn't it?" he laughs. "So Joan Crawford. But really, I hadn't thought of it. I think it's actually an accident, isn't it? We should be opening, you think, in the Castro district?"

Do you know Jamie Bell is a gay icon, too?

"He's a gay icon? I didn't know

Gays loved Billy Elliot. It made

"Oh, they cried," says Humphries sympathetically. "I'm so sorry. Charlotte's Web, did that make you cry, too? But we're talking about a group of people who

are tremendous patrons of the the Pink Ticket is the important one. It keeps us going. Do you know Benjamin Britten visited Australia when the famous Sydney Opera House was being built? Well, they were showing Britten around. He was quite a celebrated around. He was quite a celebrated homosexual composer. And the Australian politician who was showing him around said, 'Look, Sir Benjamin! What do you think of this?' And Britten, who wasn't trying to sound impolite, replied, 'It's wonderful that a comparatively small community can support an opera theater.' The politician said, 'Look, Sir Benjamin, I'm telling you this. The opera in Australia would be up Shit Creek if it wasn't for the Jews and the poofs.' It's true, of course. You can say It's true, of course. You can say that of the Metropolitan, couldn't you really? If it wasn't for the Jews and the poofs, there'd be no Met." And, possibly, no Nicholas Nickle-by.

Opens Friday.



print clearly. I certify I'm 18 years of age or older

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Porn of the year

▼ page **33**

I want it. I think

Things That Have Passed: The death of editor and incomparable celebrant John Patrick means the yearly Best of the Superstars book series has ended.

series has ended.

Making a Good Thing Better:
There must be a dozen gay playwrights in town who'd be happy to help strengthen the logic and continuity of porn scenarios, Mr. Rutherford. How about Hot Pants Homo author Allen Sawyer?

Doesn't Play Well with Others:
The porn industry isn't prepared for non-laudatory words to be written about its product. So I've

written about its product. So I've gotten bounced from the press lists of a handful of companies. Makes me paranoid. Have I been overly harsh?

Camille Saint-Saens, that bon vivant composer and lover of both Algerian boys and the pissoirs de Paree, conceded a lack of concern

\$3.00

for profundity by saying that al-though the artist "has the perfect right to descend to the nethermost depths and enter into the inner se-crets of the soul, that right is not a duty." I heard that, Camille, and will concede that pornographers need not confuse themselves with artists. Although I cannot help but relentlessly encourage them in

Now. Whom shall we cast in my porno Salome? As Salome, that concupiscent little Lolito, Timmy Thomas. Colton Ford will be John the Baptist. (I really wanted Caesar, but although he can foretell both my first and second cumming, he my first and second cumming, lie can't pass as a Jew.) Salome's tempestuous stage mother, Herodias, can only be played by the directrix who is the cheering section of all times: Ms. Chi Chi LaRue. John the B would cut off his own head if Chi Chi were calling the shots as she watched on the monitor. And I, of course, shall play Herod, for it is he who receives the revelation of Sa-lome's dance.

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Seeking Hung Hairy Oral Bottom Heavy, intense, j/o, dirty talk, cock worshipping, par-tying, drinking buddy desired. Your place, PM only. Not into toxy, videos, groups, anal. Long partying scenes encouraged. 22 72337

Virgin Boy Ripe For Pickin's Slim 5'2" 100lbs, wet sexy build, thick hair, "firm buttocks & cock," Wants- bild hair blue eyes & swinging his "big-n-beefy, Job a must. Piz be my burly up definitely your boyish bottom. Sonoma county only. Send photos. @ 7'2359

Christmas Wish Cigar Drag Queens Me-bi-HM, 54, be Christmas wish: young drag-queens (21-40), cigar-smoker, disease-free, no drugs, 69-69 suck/fuck, black nylon/ g-strings, very femme. 22 72321

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72322

FFT Wants FFB
GWM late 50's HIV- top 6'5" large hands seeks
GWM HIV- bottom for fun/pleasure aroma/herb+Call. 22 72323

FETISHES

Looking For Daddy/ S.Bay/S.V. Area Hot 40 y.o, WM, horse hung (9"), seeks hot hung daddy type. Prefer bald, beard & big. \$ replies only. HIV- & very clean. \$\oldsymbol{\Omega}\$ 72335

PARTING GLANCES

Flu Shot At 50 Ivy On 12/11/02 You: with woman; tall, dark, handsome; teach at CAPS. We: spelt your name; talked about Venezuela. Me: vaccination nurse in black overalls Interested in talking more, going out? 22 72324

Colma Bart Dec. 16 Wink Wave Wow Bart 24th Mission, our eyes met, you were studying anatomy, I exited Glen Parks, winked and from de-parting train, much to my delight, you turned, waved, smiled. Hope we connect. 22 72336

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Poz Looking For Real Man Looking for down to earth guy for dating and Itr. I'm 43, 6'2" 205, like movies, walks on beach. Quiet times at home, N/S, not into gay scene. 22 72313

Artist Looking For Relationship
I'm an Artist living in San Francisco who is good
looking and talented. If interested contact me.
22
72325

Where's My Daddy? VGL Latin Boy In Arizona looking for hot dad type to spoil me. I am 31, 5'7", 140#, goatee, HIV+, fun and avail-able for Itr. 22 72326

Man From Shanghai Recently retired, smooth & trim, new to SF, seeks men over 35, for friendship, sensual massage and a good time. 22 72327

Peninsula Or South Bay Lean masculine WM 43 looking for another lean masculine guy 20's to 40's to start a friendship and share fun times and intimate moments. Like nature, travel, and movies. 12 72328

Closeted GWM, 6', 250, chubby, affectionate, sensual, adventurous, seeks similar GM for discrete intimate encounters. N/S, N/D, your place? South Bay.

72329

Asian
Young looking GAM, 53y.o., 5'7", slim, caring, seeks older GWM for possible relationship. We enjoy quiet times, cooking, traveling. No smoking. 22 72330

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Trim verbal dominant WM 43 seeks trim submissive role play partner to be stripped naked, follow orders, and worship mushroom headed sausage.
Prefer 19-46. © 72315

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Hot masculine big-dick Italian topman seeks in-shape Black, Asian, Latino+ blue-collar White men. Top or bottom under 45. 22 72316

Goodlooking Black Bubble-Butt GBM, 39, 5°11", 189, masc. bottom, 33 waist, bubble-butt w/tan lines. Seeking aggressive masc. top, any race, 30-45, who like to plow. Call me!! ☎ 72317

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22
20

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72331

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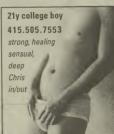
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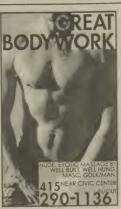
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Now on display at Harvey's in the Castro. And sometimes the artist himself is there. Not on display, just there - visiting...or eating. Sometimes he's doing laundry up the street and just stops in to say hi. 500 Castro Street @18th.

Butt Bottoms wanted for FF/toys 415-752-0971

Good Head in Sonoma County. Call Days 707-823-3895

Concord GAM luvs sucking cock Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/Bi/BL/WM Pls no overweights 925 671 2704

Body Trim & Shave "Castro Area Location". Call 4 apptmt * 626-1168

San Francisco's #1 Gay Dateline Call: 1-900-255-2221 \$2.99 min 18+. \$3.49 connection charge.

HOTOLDERMALE.COM

Hot daddies and their admirers. Photo ads, galleries, models, Looking for daddy models 40-65. models@hotoldermale.com Call 800-837-6007

S.F. SPANK PARTY INFO 415-864-2766 or Private Session

Bare-Assed Spanking Experienced, Safe: 415-929-1185

FREE

XXX PORN

BAYAREAREPORTER	PERSONA	LS OR	DER I	FORM
Indicate Type Style Here	X-BOLD Stops Here ▼	BOLD Stops Here ▼	CAPS Stop Here ▼	Regular Stops Here V

DEADLINE

NOON on MONDAY. Payment must accompany ad. No ads taken over the telephone. If you have a question, call 415.861.5019. Display advertising rates available upon request.

RATES

4.50 First line, Regular 3.00 double price BOLD double price X-BOLD

triple price

Name

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PAYMENT

Cash Personal Check

Money Order ☐ Visa

MasterCard Minimum \$10 charge on Visa and MasterCard.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Here 🔻

Card Number Expiration Date Signature

CONTACT INFORMATION

Telephone 7in City Number of Issues Classification

MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO:

BAY AREA REPORTER 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

OR FAX TO: 415.861.8144

PEOPLE

WANTED!

BAY AREA MEN

- Live Talk
- Meet Ads
- Voice Mail

24 Hours \$2.00

ree (415) 981-8123

Dad Dominates Big Guys 665-4825

CLOTHING DRIVE BEGINS IN JANUARY FOR NEEDY

Watch for selected drop-off points to donate used/serviceable clothing to the needy. A charitable project by Mr. Gay SF LanceBrittain.

WM will J/O all races 18-30, 24/7. S-Cruz area. 831-722-3739

Old fat ugly GWM 6.5" looking for hairy GWM w big cut dick in costume to dance- strip- J0 on my face for my 68th birthday in Jan. Call Ray 415-564-8159 with full particulars be HIV-

2003

The year of me!

Bearded suck slave needed man, x-clean, HIV- 55/ 238# w/blue eyes, dk blonde, big load needs drain. Call Butch 650-274-9200

Thikdik 4 tite lean eagr bottm: Dad's got 8 hard & room 4 sweet horny boi: 24hrs: 510 548 0842

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Good Head in Sonoma County. Call Days 707-823-3895

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Body Trim & Shave "Castro Area Location". Call 4 apptmt * 626-1168

NEW YEAR

Resolve to do something you've never done before.



XXX WEB

Well, Sex of Course...

"On-line's best meat market" -salon.com



Get It On...

WHAT YOU REALLY WANT ALL THE TIME!

HOTOLDERMALE.COM Hot daddies and their admirers. Photo ads, galleries, models, Looking for daddy models 40-65. models@hotoldermale.com Call 800-837-6007







I still

feel good

the day after

The idea that I might have infected somebody else is hard to live with.

The last thing I want to share is my HIV.

Now, I won't have sex that puts my partners at risk, which means I can enjoy sex when I'm having it and still feel good about it afterwards.

Rashid — Positive since 2002

Visit my website for all the details.

HIV STOPS WITH ME.ORG

Funded by San Francisco Department of Public Health
Design Better World Advertising [www.socialmarketing.com]